

BARRE GAZETTE

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Committee approves preliminary budget

By Ellenor Downer
Staff Writer

BARRE – The Quabbin Regional School District (QRSD) Committee unanimously approved a preliminary budget of \$36,023,026 and \$658,641 less than the first proposal of \$36,681,667.

The approved preliminary budget was a 3.4 percent increase over last year. The first proposal was a 5.3 percent increase. Assessments for the five-member towns would be: Barre 7.49 percent, Hardwick 10.12 percent, Hubbardston 7.80 percent, New Braintree 6.40 percent and Oakham 7.79 percent.

This was a preliminary budget based on the Governor's budget, the only budget available at the time. The house version budget would be out the third week of April and the senate version, mid-June.

Budget categories with increases exceeded the number of those with decreases. On the decrease side were district administrative and legal at minus 0.5 percent, plant and facilities at minus 0.4 percent and special education transportation at minus 6.2 percent for a total decrease of \$97,804.

Categories on the increase were administrative technology and support at plus 15.7 percent, instructional support at plus 3.9 percent, athletics and student activities at plus 3.7 percent, school security at plus 4.7 percent, technology infrastructure/maintenance at plus 0.1 percent, benefits at plus 9.4 percent, fixed charges at plus 4.5 percent, tuition at plus 0.6 percent, special education administrative technology at plus 89.3 percent, instructional support at plus 0.8 percent and special education tuition at

See QRSD, page 5

Lock In provides safe post ball party



Turley Publications Photo by Karen A. Lewis

Members of Quabbin's NJROTC Unit and their escorts pose for a group picture after the NJROTC Ball recently.

By Karen A. Lewis
Correspondent

BARRE – It was definitely a night to remember, as the annual Quabbin NJROTC Ball came to an end and the party continued for the rest of the evening until the early morning hours at Quabbin Regional High School for the sixth annual Lock In two weeks ago.

"I really enjoyed the ball this year," said NJROTC sophomore cadet Lexie Lyden. "I got to spend time with my friends, and dancing with everyone was a blast, no one felt left out. There's always a beautiful ceremony, which I was able to be a part of

See NJROTC BALL, page 6



NJROTC cadets, from left, Lexie Lyden, Lily Hanks, Izaiah Gonzalez and Christopher Eldredge practice for Just Dance at the Lock In after the ball.



It was a mixture of getting serious and having fun for, from left, Roman Cerezo, Molly Amidon and Noah Linhart when practicing for the big Just Dance event at the NJROTC Lock In.

Selectmen declare local state of emergency

Editor's note: The broadcast had audio issues.

By Ellenor Downer
Staff Writer

BARRE – Selectmen Monday night unanimously declared a local state of emergency. Selectman Dylan Clark participated remotely. The action came following similar action on the both the state and national level.

The public had access to the March 16 meeting by broadcast only.

Interim Town Administrator Heather Budrewicz said she met with the town's Emergency Management Team and was in contact with members during the weekend. She gave the selectmen a draft of declaration of local state of emergency prepared by KP Law.

She said in an update on the town website townofbarre.com, "As of March 16, all Barre town buildings have been closed to the public and all staff continue to report in to assist the public with their needs through phone, email and mail. The Emergency Management Team will continue to meet and review the most current information available in order to keep town officials informed and provide information to the public."

Budrewicz said she met with Council on Aging director Eileen Clarkson and the COA will continue with wellness checks and Elder Services will provide Meals on Wheels.

She said the library director was working on a mechanism to provide books to the public. She also met with the treasurer and town accountant. They recommended freezing all expenses that were not routine such as utilities, etc.

The interim administrator will continue to post updates on the town's Facebook page, the town website at townofbarre.com, MyTownGovernment.org/01005 and the Barre Cable Access station.

QRSD offers free meals to go at selected schools

REGION – The Quabbin Regional School District (QRSD) has plans in place to ensure students, who rely on their schools for breakfast and lunch continue to receive that service.

Walk-up distribution of daily prepared meals at selected school sites for families to pick up will be available Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. until school reopens. These meals will be available for free for anyone 18 and under regardless of what school they attend. Each child will receive a breakfast and lunch.

Families can access meals from either location listed: Hardwick Elementary School (no pin required) or Quabbin Middle & High School (will need 4 digit pin# or student name).

Cold "grab and go" options will be available and meals must be taken and consumed off site. If people have difficulty with transportation for pickup or other concerns, they may call 978-355-4668.

Share your experiences with us

Note to readers:

The Barre Gazette would love to share how readers are coping with the efforts to stop the spread of the corona virus and its accompanying disease, COVID-19. We would love to follow some area residents, by phone, email and photos, as you go about coping with children at home for the next few weeks, whether you work inside or outside the home. If you would rather send just send photos in or write essays about how it is going

we would love to have those too. Please send all emails to edowenr@turley.com with photos, essays, for more information or to volunteer to be part of our effort to document how people are coping with these new circumstances. If children want to contribute please send artwork, essays and photos on as well. Please include full names and telephone numbers if you would like to be reached. Stay safe.

Thank you,
Ellenor Downer, Editor

Event cancellation notice

As towns, schools and clubs continue to assess the threat posed by the coronavirus, many are making the decision to cancel or postpone their public events, often with little notice.

The Barre Gazette will inform readers about cancellations when

known and when the newspaper's weekly deadline will permit, but readers should be aware of the possibility that events featured in the printed newspaper, including those previewed in stories, briefs and on the calendar page, may be canceled without enough notice to print an update. The Barre Gazette encourages readers to contact event coordinators and organizers to confirm that it is still taking place before attending.

Barre Lions Club and Senior Buddies purchase steam table

Editor's note: The Barre Senior Center is closed to the public due to the coronavirus pandemic. People may call Barre Council on Aging at 774-764-8702 for assistance. The COA will continue with the Meals on Wheels and wellness checks.

BARRE – The Barre Senior Center, 457 South Barre Road, was established to serve the needs of elders in the community. For those who may be unaware, the Hardwick Senior Center merged with the Barre Senior Center in May of 2017. As a result, the role of the Barre Senior Center in the community has expanded.

The heart and soul of the senior center is its Daily Lunch Program. For a modest fee, members of the community can come in and enjoy a nutritional and balanced meal each Monday through Friday. A 2-day notice is required so that staff can be prepared to serve you. All it takes is a call to 978-355-5027 to let them know that you will be coming.

Jayne Day, the site manager, has been preparing and serving meals with her friendly staff and volun-



Turley Publications Submitted Photo

The Barre Lions Club made a donation to the Senior Buddies to help in their efforts to purchase this steam table for the lunch program at the Barre Senior Center.

teers for almost 10 years. People will also see her and members of her crew on the streets of Barre delivering meals to those, who cannot get to the senior center. As the demands on the kitchen staff have

grown, Jayne has managed to keep abreast of these changes and has strived to make improvements to

See SENIORS, page 8

BARRE  GAZETTE

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News of the Towns



Round Town
Ellenor Downer
413-967-3505

Town buildings close

All Barre Town buildings will be closed to the public, except by appointment and include the Henry Woods Building, Woods Memorial Library, the Council on Aging (senior center), old Town Hall, the public safety building, fire stations and DPW. Please call an office before visiting in many cases staff is able to assist over the phone or by mail. Meals on Wheels program and wellness checks for seniors will continue.

Winter baskets/decorations removal

All winter baskets and decorations must be removed from St. Joseph's Cemetery, located on South Barre Road, by March 23 to facilitate spring clean up. All remaining items will be discarded.

Congregational church suspends services

Pastor Margaret and the Deacons of the Barre Congregational Church have decided to cancel services at the church for Sunday, March 22 due to the COVID-19 virus.

This decision was not made lightly and they feel this is in the best interest of the congregation. Please remember also that the day-to-day functioning of the church still continues so do not forget to pay your pledges. The church will continue to keep members updated on how they are handling this situation.

Women's Fellowship tea and luncheon postponement

The Women's Fellowship at the Barre Congregational Church has decided to postpone the tea and luncheon until a later date. They would like to keep everyone safe and healthy due to the happenings in our world and communities. The new date will be announced later.

Haston library closed until at least April 6

NORTH BROOKFIELD – After discussion with the library trustees and monitoring state library discussion lists, the Haston Free Public Library, 161 North Main St., will close effective immediately until at least April 6. Library staff will be on site for short periods Monday through Thursday to collect mail and respond to phone messages.

Patrons that have library materials to return may put them in the book drop if possible. This includes DVDs, CDs, and books on CD. If people can't return their items, don't worry about overdue fines during this time. Library staff will waive fines when the items are returned.

There is no more interlibrary loan delivery. If people received notice that they have items on hold, they should call the library at 508-867-0208 to make an appointment to pick them up.

There are lots of library services that are available to people online. They may go to <https://libraries.state.ma.us/> to find e-books, e-audio, online magazines, databases and even downloadable video.

Library staff will try to continue to circulate its Haston Library materials. People should check online for availability, then call the library with the title, author, their name and library card number. Limit is three items. As with hold items, library staff will make arrangements for pick-up.

People may call the library at 508-867-0208 with any questions.

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Hungry bear emerges from winter den



This black bear roamed the New Braintree Road area of Oakham recently. He stopped at this bird feeding station.

OAKHAM - Raúl and Barbara Laborde talked about taking in their bird feeders just the day before this black bear showed up in their yard. The couple said, "He (the bear) apparently had made at least two earlier stops back up the road toward town. Our two bird feeders survived pretty well, except for one tooth hole in one of them."



The black bear pushed on pole holding bird feeders so it could reach the bird-seed.

Turley Publications Photos by
Raúl Laborde



The bear used its tongue to get seeds out of the feeder port. The bear dropped enough seeds for the birds.

Have Something to Share?

Send your stories and photos to edowner@turley.com

Hubbardston

Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com



Town buildings closed

The town of Hubbardston is closing all town buildings to the public until March 31. Offices will continue to provide services of the government to residents. The closure will result in the delivery of services remotely. All public safety operations will continue.

Town wide cleanup

The annual town wide cleanup will be held Saturday, April 18 rain or shine from 8 a.m. to noon at Curtis Recreation Field. Keep Hubbardston Beautiful is sponsoring the third annual town wide cleanup. The recreation field will be a one-stop shop for waste disposal, bottle and can redemption, electronic waste and appliance recycling. Residents are encouraged to pick up litter around town and bring what they collected to the recreation field for proper disposal in a free dumpster. Volunteers may obtain large trash bags at the Slade Building, 7A Main St., April 13 through 16 or at the recreation field April 18 or they can use their own bags. Hubbardston Girl Scouts and Boys Scouts BSA Troop 22 will be collecting recycling. Keep Hubbardston Beautiful is seeking donations for safety shirts for volunteers. For more information, people may visit tiny.cc/KeepHubbBeautiful, like them on Facebook, call 978-820-0246 or email KeepHubbBeautiful@gmail.com.

Hubbardston Senior Center

Hubbardston Senior Center, 7A Main St., Hubbardston is closed until Tuesday, March 31. The eggs will still be available Thursdays at the same time and produce will still be available Wednesdays and Fridays with pickup outside. People may call the senior center at 978-928-1400, extension 211 with any questions.

Barre Vietnam veterans not on memorial should contact veteran's agent

BARRE – The Vietnam Memorial in North Park may be upgraded to veterans that left Barre to serve their country and did not have their name on the memorial. A Vietnam veteran from Barre not on the list should contact Anthony Musnicki, Veterans Agent for Barre at 978-337-2351. The deadline to respond to the town's veteran's agent is Wednesday, April 1.

Barre Dining Center

BARRE – Elder Services of Worcester Area Nutrition Program welcomes guests to dine at the Barre Senior Center, 557 South Barre Rd. The following meals will be served for the week of March 23.

Note: There is only Meals on Wheels delivery only at this time.

Volunteers are needed at the Barre dining site. Volunteers are needed for Meals on Wheels (mileage reimbursement) and in the kitchen. People should contact 978-355-5027.

MON. – Beef stew, rice, corn niblets, Mandarin oranges, Italian bread

TUES. – Buttermilk chicken, sour cream and chive mashed potato, peas and carrots, Oreo cookies, whole wheat bread

WED. – Baked potato with chili and cheese, broccoli, sour cream, birthday cake, diet = small piece, pumpernickel bread

THURS. – Hot dog on bun, baked beans, coleslaw, strawberries, mustard

FRI. – Vegetable cheese bake, seasoned potatoes, green beans, peaches, Italian bread

*Diabetic friendly dessert

**Higher sodium entree

Meal includes milk and margarine. Menus are subject to change. Reservations should be made the day before by calling 978-355-5027 before 10:30 a.m. The donation of \$2.50 per meal helps keep the program running.

Corrections policy

The Barre Gazette will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 2. To request a correction, send information to Editor Ellenor Downer at barrenews@turley.com or call 978-355-4000. Corrections may also be requested in writing at Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

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For both ChoiceEquity Lines of Credit above: Maximum APR is 12.00%, \$50 annual fee after one year. If you pay off your account in full and close the credit line within the first 3 years, you will pay a Reimbursement Fee. The Reimbursement Fee charge will be equal to all upfront closing costs paid by lender to third parties at closing. Minimum loan amount is \$10,000. Maximum loan amount cannot exceed 80% of the home's current value, less any existing first mortgage liens. Appraisal required. Homeowner insurance required. Flood insurance may be required, if applicable. Offer available only on new accounts for owner occupied 1-4 family primary residences. Offer may be withdrawn at any time. Other Rates and Terms also available. Consult a tax advisor regarding deductibility.

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NOTICE

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News of the Towns

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Note: No public access to meetings available digitally. Also check MyTownGovernment to see if meeting cancelled.

BARRE

Barre Housing Authority – April 2 at 3 p.m.
Sewer Commission – March 19 at 4:30 p.m.
Board of Health – March 23 at 5 p.m.
Cemetery Commission – March 26 at 11 a.m.
Finance Committee – March 26 at 6 p.m.
Library Trustees – March 26 at 6:15 p.m.
Board on Aging – April 1 at 1 p.m.
250th Anniversary Committee – April 1 at 6:30 p.m.
Water Commission – April 1 at 7 p.m.
Barre Housing Authority – April 2 at 3 p.m.
Town election – April 6 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

HARDWICK

Board of Selectmen – March 30, April 13, 27, May 11 and May 26 at 6:30 p.m.
Board of Health – April 2 at 6:30 p.m.
Paige Library Trustees – April 2 at 7 p.m.
Recycling Commission – April 7 at 6:30 p.m.
Gilbertville-Wheelwright Sewer Commissioners – April 13 and May 11 at 5:30 p.m.

HUBBARDSTON

Town Center Committee – March 19 at 7 p.m.
Board of Assessors – March 23 at 7 p.m.
Council on Aging – March 26 at 10:30 a.m.
Board of Selectmen – March 30 at 6:30 p.m.
Open Space Committee – March 31 at 7 p.m.

PETERSHAM

Board of Health – March 19 and April 2 at 7 p.m.
Petersham Historic District – March 19 at 7 p.m.
Planning Board – March 26 at 7 p.m.
Open Space & Recreation Committee – April 7 at 6:30 p.m.
Conservation Commission – April 7 at 7:30 p.m.

RUTLAND

Ad Hoc By-Law Committee – March 24 and 31 at 12:45 p.m.

Alfred Heyes receives 50-year American Legion citation

BARRE – The Barre Post 2 of the American Legion Department of Massachusetts, recently presented a citation from its National Headquarters to fellow Legionnaire Alfred O. Heyes for his 50 years of continuous service with the American Legion.

Alfred Heyes served in the United States Army during the Korean War. He belonged to former Post 404 of South Barre and currently belongs to Post 2 of Barre.



Turley Publications Courtesy Photos

Alfred O. Heyes holds a citation from the National American Legion Headquarters for his 50 years of continuous service with the American Legion. He received the citation at the monthly meeting Monday, March 9.



Legionnaire Al Heyes was recently awarded a 50-year membership certificate by the American Legion. He was presented the award at Barre Post 2 by Commander Dennis Fleming.

Spring Taste Buds are Popping!

Two Large Cheese Pizzas
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Frozen Assets gets dunked March 4

By Karen A. Lewis
Correspondent

HUBBARDSTON – It finally happened through warm and cold spells and the overall mild winter, as people sat on the edge of their seat in wonder, Hubbardston’s most famous outhouse, Frozen Assets, broke through the ice and sunk on Wednesday, March 4, in the wee hours of the morning at 3:08:15 a.m.

The unusual and fun town event is just another in the long line of entertainment throughout the year from Special Events Advisor extraordinaire, Katie Young of Hubbardston.

According to Young, the event fundraiser had originally been run by the Hubbardston Business Association, however the Hubbardston Celebration group has been overseeing the activity of the outhouse affair since 2015.

“I’ve heard of other ice out challenges, but I don’t know of another that involves an outhouse specifically,” said Young.

In a nutshell, an outhouse was placed on the ice in the middle of a pond located on the property of The Country Hen on Williamsville Road in Hubbardston on Feb. 5 this year.

In a way to raise money the community was asked to give their best guess as to when the outhouse would sink. For a \$20 entry fee, participants had an opportunity to submit their best five guesses. The closest four guesses each won prizes.

The four lucky winners this year included Hubbardston Town Diner, with the top guess of March 4 at 8:15:35 a.m., winning a \$300 gift card, coming up second was Marie Langevin with her guess of March 3 at 4:10:15 p.m., earning her a \$150 gift card. The Galante family notched the third place spot with their estimate of March 3 at 3:33:33 p.m., receiving a \$75 gift card prize and rounding out the victors was Morgan Brinker in fourth with a nail biting time of 3:33:02 on March 3 – only 31 seconds shy of the Galante’s, securing her and her family one flat of eggs for eight weeks, courtesy of The Country Hen.

“As each ticket allows for five guesses, it was perfect for our family of five,” a happy Brinker said. “Each of us



Turley Publications Submitted Photo

Hubbardston’s famous fundraiser, Frozen Assets, a mock up of an outhouse, sat on a pond located on the property of The Country Hen on Williamsville Road before it sunk on March 4.

made a guess, I don’t recall whose guess was the winner, but I do recall a lot of late February, early March guesses with all of us hoping for an early spring.”

Young has been grateful for the help of Country Hen, allowing the storage of the outhouse during the off season and for the assistance of placement and retrieval on and off their pond.

The actual time of the outhouse sinking is determined by water.

“The clock is strapped on the base, located behind the outhouse in a container with holes in it so snow or rain won’t stop it prematurely,” explained Young. “When it sinks, water gets into the container and stops it.”

Monies earned from this event go directly into the Special Events Fund to help

cover costs for other special town events including the Hubbardston Light Fight held during December, the Dinghy Dash in August and hopefully coming up soon – the Hubbardston Town Fair at the Recreation Field on June 27 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. with a rain date of June 28.

“Katie Young is Mrs. Hubbardston, she is so well connected to the pulse of our town,” Brinker said. “The Hubbardston Fair, Light Fight and Dingy Dash are a few of our most favorite local traditions now. The Hubbardston community is amazing at coming out to support each other. These events help to add to our community culture and gives us fun ways to engage face to face throughout the year.froz This is very important for building our community.”

UMass hospital announces temporary visitation changes

WORCESTER — In response to the widening concerns over COVID-19 and in an effort to better safeguard the health of patients, caregivers, their families and the general public, UMass Memorial Medical Center has established a new, temporary vis-

itation policy. Effective immediately visitors who have a fever, cough or shortness of breath, are prohibited to visit at this time. Patients currently in the hospital are allowed only one, designated adult visitor per day (no children under 18 are allowed at this time).

For their Children’s Medical Center/Maternity Center/ Neonatal Intensive Care Unit or NICU, visitation is limited to designated parents, legal guardian or surrogate. Laboring patients may have one support person throughout the course of their stay.

Oakham

Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com



OHA announces final lottery winners

The annual 20-20 lottery fundraiser sponsored by the Oakham Historical Association (OHA) ended on March 12. The game began Jan. 7 with two drawings each week for ten weeks. To be a winner, an individual’s OHA lottery ticket number had to match the middle two digits drawn in the Tuesday and Thursday evenings Massachusetts Daily Number lottery. The winners in March were Amanda Miranda of Worcester; Lloyd Amesbury of Woonsocket, R.I. (a three time winner); Carole Dwelly and Richard Bechan, both of Oakham. Tickets for next year’s game will go on sale at the Harvest and Holly church fair in November and a mail-in order form will be printed in the OHA December newsletter. The association greatly appreciates the support given by participants in this annual fundraising effort.

Oakham Congregational cancels services

The Oakham Congregational Church will not hold Sunday worship services March 22 and 29 due to the coronavirus pandemic. Church council will reassess the situation before Palm Sunday.

Easter egg hunt and breakfast postponed

Oakham Congregational Church will postpone its breakfast and annual Easter egg hunt, both scheduled for April 4. If the situation improves the breakfast and egg hunt may be rescheduled for after Easter.

Fobes Memorial Library

The Fobes Memorial Library will be closed to the public until March 30, at which time the situation will be re-assessed. Library staff will be available to answer calls and assist with digital resources.

BSER shavings sale

Bay State Equine Rescue (BSER) will hold its spring shavings sale. Pick up will be Saturday, April 25 from 8:30 to 11 a.m. at Camp Marshall, 92 McCormick Road, Spencer. Minimum order is ten. Cost is \$4.90 per bale plastic wrapped up to \$199 and \$4.75 for 200 and up. Bale is 3.25 cubic feet compressed or 7.5 cubic feet loose. People may contact Sharon at 508-892-0233 or sah@baystateequinerescue.com.

Stage on Main reschedules play until Nov. 15

ORANGE – Stage on Main, 17 South Main St., has rescheduled “Remember Me Nellie,” a one-act play by Brian Marsh performed by Dee Waterman, to Sunday, Nov. 15 due to health concerns. This play is based on the life of journalist, Nellie Bly.

Dee Waterman is a local actress who began acting in 1976 and has graced stages at UMass, Amherst Players, Old Deerfield Productions, 1794 Meeting House in New Salem and Stage on Main. Waterman won best actor award in the community theater competition in “Last Act Is a Solo.”

Stage On Main is sponsored by the Orange Court LLC, Legacy Unlimited, the Orange Revitalization Partnership and supported in part by a grant from the Orange Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency. For more information, people may call 513-226-0043 or visit Facebook “Stage on Main.”

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Opinion

Editorial

Things change by the hour

The Quabbin District superintendent said at last Thursdays school committee meeting about the coronavirus pandemic, “Things are changing by the hour, even by the minute.” At the Thursday, March 12 meeting, six school districts decided to close schools for varying time periods to do deep cleaning. They included Arlington, Bedford, Burlington, Everett, Lexington and Winchester. The next day the Quabbin Regional School District joined a long list of schools closed in the Commonwealth. By Monday, Governor Charlie Baker announced that all Massachusetts public schools must close for three weeks. He urged school staff to provide alternate and remote learning resources.

Originally, gatherings were limited to 250 people. The figure changed to 25 Sunday.

By the end of last week, postponements and cancellations started happening. Churches decided not to hold Services and Masses.

The governor announced on March 12 an emergency order temporarily modifying the state’s open meeting law in order to allow state, quasi and local governments to continue to carry out essential functions and operations during the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak.

Locally, Hardwick scheduled a Special Town Meeting for Monday night. It got moved to April. Boards and committees either cancelled meetings or held them with just digital access. However some area towns do not digitally record meetings.

The pandemic impacts everyone. People at high risk- those over 60 years old and those with underlying medical conditions - should remain in their homes if possible. No visitors are allowed in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Many store shelves are bare and items like toilet paper, paper towels and cleaning and disinfecting products are hard to get.

The Governor mandated that all restaurants and bars offer take out food only to prevent crowds. Towns closed municipal buildings to the public along with libraries, but may be contacted via phone or email. Banks closed lobbies and offered drive-up services only. Employers asked employees to work from home.

Many workers have jobs that they cannot do from home. Health care providers, retail workers, postal workers, truck drivers, retail, food service and many more still have contact with the public.

In order to help curtail the spread of COVID-19, it is important that people do their part. All of us must practice frequent hand washing, practice social distancing, work from home if possible, check on elderly neighbors and at the grocery store avoid hoarding of not only the hard to find items, but everything. People should get some sunshine, take a walk and eat foods that help booster their immune systems.

Please stay safe, practice good judgment, stay calm and be kind to others during this pandemic.

Guest column

Adventures of Gertrude the Cat

By Ruth Robinson

Dear folks,

I had a feeling that today was going to be bad. Missy had already yelled at me, “Gertrude, What did you do with my other slipper?” I truly didn’t know. I have put that slipper several places through the years. There is a water leak downstairs and the plumber is coming. Oh, I see Missy has two slippers on so I guess she found the right place.

Yep, here comes the plumber. Missy told him about things and then she hurried off to her meeting. I got curious about the plumber and as the cellar door was still open I went downstairs to watch. He went in and out of the cellar to get things from his truck and left the outside door open.

Boy, oh boy, I have always wanted to go back outside again. So I scooted up the stairs and darted outside under the deck. This was great. I scooped up a little dirt and made a hole, but it wasn’t as easy as in the litter box. Then I ran up to the summer camp and got underneath it as it rests on cinder blocks. I started out and felt water hitting me. They say this is called rain. Darn, the plumber just left and I am shut outside.

What to do now? Hooray, here comes Missy in her car. She dashed through the rain to the house and so did I. “Gertrude, what are you doing outside?” We both got a little wet, but it felt good to be back in my own territory. Missy was so busy getting herself dried off that she forgot to scold me so I quickly headed for the spare bedroom for a nice nap and out of her way.

Have a good week folks and stay healthy.

Love, Gertrude



PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID AT BARRE, MA
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In Past Pages

5 years ago (March 19, 2015)

Boston Amateur Basketball Club will be hosting the BABC-Select Classic against players from Central Massachusetts. The action will take place at Worcester Academy with the underclassman game, followed by the senior game. From Quabbin, forward Marco Gabrielli will play for the underclassmen team. Collin Bennett of Quabbin will play for the senior squad.

The Orthodox Congregational Church will dedicate its worship service March 22 to the memory of Earl Olson, organist at the church for 30 years from 1956 to 1986. Special music that Olson played will be featured as a part of the worship. He and his wife Carolyn were a large part of the church and the community where he also directed the Petersham Brass Band for 25 years.

North Brookfield Savings Bank (NBSB) President and CEO Donna Boulanger and NBSB Trustee Betsy Cuddy presented a check for \$1,500 to the Ware Fuel Bank program, represented by Reverend Charles Taylor and Church Administrator Georgeann Koziol of the United Church of Ware.

10 years ago (March 25, 2010)

To publicize its new Facebook presence, Barre Savings Bank announced that it would donate \$2 for each new Facebook fan who had signed up as of Feb. 28 up to \$1,000. The contribution would be shared by the Quabbin Education Foundation for Students and Teachers (QUEST) and the Wachusett Regional School District to help meet their technology needs.

The Oakham Congregational Church youth group participated in the Sunday morning worship service. They presented three sermonettes: “Crown of Thorns,” “The Sign Maker” and “The Vinegar Man.” Sam Arcikowski, Joshua Cote, Cory delaGorgendiere, Morgan Freeman, Tove Freeman, Abby Lajoie, Jeff Nelson, Denisha Storie, Hanna Storie and Betsy Turnbull took part.

On March 16 the Oakham Council on Aging sponsored a pre-St. Patrick’s Day celebration at the Nutrition Site. Due to the number of guests expected, they were given permission to serve their lunch at Fellowship of the Oakham Congregational Church so that all could be accommodated. The traditional corned beef, cabbage and boiled potatoes meal was served followed by an Irish dessert. The COA also contributed Irish soda bread to the meal. Cheese, crackers, and a green punch were available for early arrivals. Special guests were the Silver Tones, a wonderfully talented singing group made up of

LOOK BACK
Shrove Tuesday - 2003



Turley Publications File Photo

Don Rich flips pancakes in the foreground while Jennie Ericson tends to the sausages at the Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner at the Christ Episcopal Church in South Barre.

seniors ranging in age from 60 to 96 who come from several towns in the area. After lunch, they performed a series of lovely Irish tunes, many of which were well-known so that people could sing along with the group.

25 years ago (March 23, 1995)

Madeline Willey’s 94-year-old aunt, Marjorie Kirkley from East Longmeadow, made a short visit on March 14. Olivia Barkman was on vacation and drove Aunt Marjorie to Barre where they spent a couple of hours visiting. They had lunch at Currier’s Corner with Clara Gonsalves, and then Aunt Marjorie was tired and ready to return to her cozy apartment in an elderly complex.

For those who remember well two of Petersham’s most colorful “Town Fathers,” Dan Broderick and Ernest Phillips, the excellent photos taken by Norma Gray many years ago are still part of the town memorabilia. They are now hanging on the walls of the re-located town clerk’s office. In the older files of the Gazette is a story on Mr. Phillips, who accumulated well over a century of years in public service. Mr. Broderick ruled the roost from his old-time country story, complete with big round stove, around which more town business was discussed than we could imagine.

Sarina Celona was the guest of honor recently at a family gath-

ering in honor of her 90th birthday, which is on St. Patrick’s day. Sarina received many lovely cards, gifts and flowers in honor of her special day. She was two daughters, “Kay” Murray and Anna Robinson of Barre; a son Nunzi from Ludlow; seven grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren who helped celebrate this memorable event.

38 years ago (March 24, 1982)

The Sports Afield Magazine takes great pleasure in announcing the awarding of its Best in Species Angling Award to Asa Johnson, local fisherman who resides in South Barre. Asa won the top award for the State of Massachusetts by catching a 72 pound, 6 ounce cod, which was the largest taken in the state during 1981. Johnson caught the prize fish off the coast of Massachusetts last June 6.

Mary Neylon popped in the door of the Barre Gazette Tuesday morning to let us know that her crocuses have been up for two days – a sure sign of spring here in Barre.

Letter to The Editor

SBA reaches out to businesses impacted by COVID-19

The MA Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and Baker-Polito Administration are working closely with the U.S. SBA to activate the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program, which would provide assistance to eligible businesses and non-profits impacted by COVID-19.

The first step in this process is to meet a minimum threshold of affected businesses within Massachusetts.

Affected small businesses and non-profits should download, complete and submit the SBA EIDL Worksheet (<https://lnkd.in/ewF7VBy>) and instructions to expedite activation of the EIDL program.

Completed forms can be submitted by email to Disaster.Recovery@mass.gov or by fax to 508-820-1401. If you do fax the form, please include their email. Please note, this initial survey form is not a SBA loan application.

When the EIDL program is activated, you will be contacted to apply directly to the SBA and this website will be updated with application details. For questions, please contact Disaster.Recovery@mass.gov.

EIDLs provide small businesses with working capital loans of up to \$2 million to help meet financial obligations and operating expenses until normal operations resume.

Thank you for getting this information out to impacted businesses and to your respective networks as we are trying to get enough support as quickly as possible in order to get an SBA declaration for Massachusetts and the ability to do direct loans for this disaster ASAP.

Regards,

Robert H. Nelson
Massachusetts District Director
U.S. Small Business Administration

2020 Turley Election Policy

This newspaper will print free self-submitted statements of candidacy only four weeks or more out from the election. All candidates running in both contested and uncontested races are asked to submit their statements to the editor to include only biographical and campaign platform details. Total word count for statements is limited to between 300-500 words maximum. Please include a photo. We will not publish any statements of candidacy inside the four weeks from election threshold. To publish any other campaign publicity during the race, please contact our advertising representatives. We also do not allow personal attacks against other candidates or political parties in statements of candidacy, nor do we publish for free any information about key endorsements or political fundraisers.

Letters to the editor of no more than 250 words from supporters endorsing specific candidates or discussing campaign issues are limited to three total per author during the election season. No election letters will appear in the final edition before the election. We reserve the right to edit all statements of candidacy and letters to the editor to meet our guidelines.

Turley Publications Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters to the editor should be 350 words or less in length. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require letter writers to include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous or contain unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, defamation of character and offensive language. All unknown or alleged facts and quotations offered by the author need to cite credible, unbiased sources. Send letters to: Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005 or via email to edowner@turley.com. The deadline for submissions is Friday at noon.

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THE BARRE GAZETTE – Serving the towns of Barre, Hardwick, Hubbardston, New Braintree, North Brookfield, Oakham, Petersham & Rutland since 1834

Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

So many events are being postponed and we have decided to stay home for at least two weeks. There is plenty of yard work to do so that will keep us busy. Ken is trimming the apple trees and I am doing the yard raking. So many of the bulbs are coming up. The snowbells are in full bloom.

Here is a recipe that I will be making with the frozen shrimp that we got this week.

SHRIMP NEWBURG

1/3 cup butter
2 tablespoons flour
1 cup light cream
4 egg yolks, slightly beaten
2 cups cleaned and cooked shrimp
1/4 cup cooking sherry
2 teaspoon lemon juice
Salt to taste.

Melt 1/3 cup butter and blend in 2 tablespoons flour. Gradually stir in 2 cups light cream. Cook slowly, stirring constantly, until mixture thickens. Stir small amount of hot mixture into egg yolks and gradually return to hot mixture. Add shrimp and heat. Add 1/4 cup sherry, lemon juice and salt. Serve over hot water in a pan. Serve with patty shells or toast triangles.

This and That

Each day that it is above 40 degrees I go out and clean out one of the flower beds. Many of the bulbs are coming up. I don't take the leaves off the beds in the fall so there are a lot of leaves. I have compost piles on all sides of the house in the woods so I bring the wheel barrow there to dump the leaves. All the branches of pine go into the burning piles.

Another chore that I have been doing is making labels with popsicle sticks to put on my various plants that I want to keep the variety name. I have charts that I make so I know where different plants are. I especially like to know the variety of hostas and epimediums.

I also have started a list of the various plants I want to get closer to the end of May for the window box and large pots. I am slowly bringing out the garden things from the garden shed. One nice day, I spray painted the wooden bench and the little house that goes over the artesian well. Ken wants to do the deck floors before I put plants on the deck. I will see if that gets done.

Have a nice week and keep washing those hands and drink water every 15 minutes. Keep healthy.

Pre-start cannas now

I was trying to think up a good indoor gardening project that the girls could help me with over their unexpected break from school. How about pre-starting some canna rhizomes? I have a few overwintering in the mudroom and if I start the now they'll be good-sized by May. Read on.

Cannas are gorgeous plants for the summer border. Their large, paddle-shaped leaves and fist-sized clusters of vivid-toned flowers add an exotic touch to beds and container plantings. Sometimes, however, a gardener's initial experience with this tender bulb leads to disappointment rather than delight. The plant may take most of the season to reach its mature height and come into flower, only to be struck down by frost a few weeks later. Why not give your cannas a head start? By potting them up now you will get blooms earlier in the season and be able to enjoy wonderful tropical foliage for a longer period.

If you are shopping for canna rhizomes for the first time, you will no doubt find a better selection through mail order nurseries than the local garden center. Standard varieties can grow upwards of six feet tall, whereas dwarf cultivars top off at two or three feet. Choose carefully! All will do best if planted in full sun and fertile soil. Some cannas even make great water specimens. When you place your order, mention to the operator that you'd like your bulbs as soon as it is safe enough for

them to be sent in the mail without risk of freezing, otherwise you will likely receive them close to Memorial Day, which is too late for indoor planting.

When your package arrives, unpack it immediately. Canna rhizomes will come in small plastic bags filled with peat moss. At the very least, they should be about the size of your thumb; sometimes they are even double that in width. They ought to be firm, not at all soft. To pot them up, choose a container that is a couple of inches bigger than the rhizome when it is laid out horizontally; one six to eight inches in diameter is usually ideal. Fill the pot about half way with a good quality moistened potting soil. Lay the rhizome on top with leaf buds pointing up. Any hairy roots, new or old can fall to the side. Cover with two inches of soil. If your finished product reaches the rim, reposition so that you have at least an inch deep "basin" on top to make watering well easier. Place the pots in a warm location and continue to water as needed. When the first sprouts appear, move the canna plants to a sunny window or place under grow lights. By mid-May you can start to harden the plants off outdoors by gradually exposing them to bright sun, wind and fluctuating temps. After a week to 10 days of acclima-

IN THE GARDEN



Roberta McQuaid
Columnist

tization, and if there are no frosts in the forecast, cannas can be removed from their pots and planted in their permanent summer location. A shovelful of compost in the planting hole along with supplemental fertilizer every couple of weeks will result in big, floriferous plants fast!

Be sure to save your cannas from year to year; it's easy and makes great sense money-wise. I have had the same 'Wyoming' cannas going for well over a decade now. After a light frost, dig up the plants and let them dry briefly. Then, cut the foliage away from the rhizomes and store them at 50 degrees in boxes or tubs filled with peat moss. As mentioned, my mudroom is the perfect spot in my house. I am sure there is a place in yours too. After the second season you will have enough divisions to share with family and friends; much to their delight.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

In My Backyard by Ellenor Downer

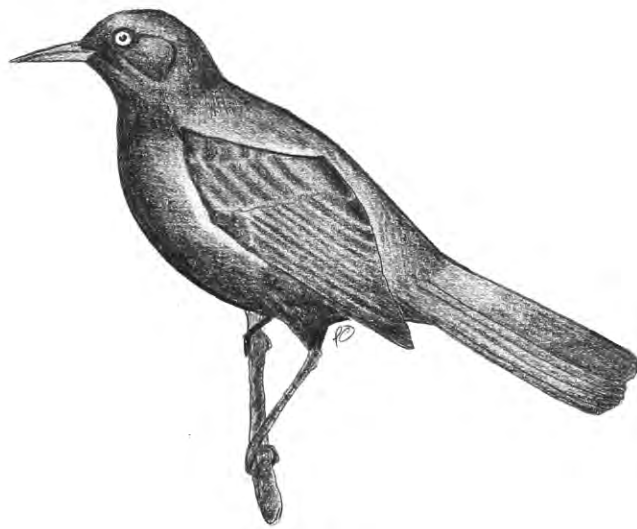
Massachusetts Audubon Society reported the sighting of a rusty blackbird in Lee. The rusty blackbird is about nine inches with black feathers. It has a pale yellow eye. The male is black overall and the female is dark gray and may have brown edges to wing feathers. The rusty blackbird has a shorter tail and longer bill than the Brewer's blackbird.

In winter, the male rusty blackbird has feathers edged with rusty brown on head, back and wings. The rump is black. The female in winter has buffy under parts and eyebrow with rusty back and gray rump. Both the males and females tend to be rustier and buffer in their first fall.

Rusty blackbirds feed on the ground and in very shallow water. They eat insects, crustaceans, fish, grain and weed seeds. The female lays four to five pale, greenish eggs with dark marks in a nest of grass, moss and lined with finer materials. They build the nest in a shrub or tree two to 20 feet above the ground.

Rusty blackbirds form huge winter flocks with other blackbirds and starlings. They winter in woods and fields near water and summer in spruce bogs and wet woods. There song is a squeaky "chugalasqueek" and a "chek" call.

Other recent Massachusetts Audubon Society sightings included a snow goose in Cheshire on March 6. On March 10, sightings included a black Guillemot (Arctic subspecies), a black



Paula Ouimette, the author's daughter, drew this rusty blackbird.

Guillemot (tropical subspecies, in Provincetown; a clay-colored sparrow and 11 chipping sparrows in Eastham and at Race Point, Provincetown – a Pacific loon, short-eared owl, two common Murres, 500 razorbills, a glaucous gull and 16 Iceland gulls.

More red-winged blackbirds

I've seen more red-winged blackbirds. When I took a walk to the beaver pond on the edge of my hayfield this past weekend, I heard the red-winged blackbirds singing "okaleee." Their presence and song is one of the signs of spring. Although some robins spend the winter in this area, I am now seeing more robins in yards and fields. I had a lone robin in my yard earlier this week. I also saw hooded mergansers on a pond in New Braintree.

Black bears

Black bears out of their winter dens. An Oakham couple sent photos of a black bear at their bird feeder station eating seeds. I put a small amount of seeds and shelled peanuts in my tray feeder every morning. Blue jays, red-winged blackbirds, tufted titmice, black-capped chickadees, white-breasted nuthatches, downy woodpeckers and juncos wait for me to fill it. The gray squirrels and an occasional red squirrel finish what the birds don't get. Hopefully, if a bear wanders into my yard, the seeds will be gone.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100 or emailing mybackyard88@aol.com

Governor announces emergency order modifying Open Meeting Law

BOSTON – The Baker-Polito Administration announced March 12 an emergency order temporarily modifying the state's open meeting law in order to allow state, quasi and local governments to continue to carry out essential functions and operations during the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak.

This emergency order suspends the requirement for public access to the physical location where a public meeting is taking place, provided there are other means of access available. This includes the use of a phone conference line for members of the public, social media or other Internet streaming ser-

vices, on-line meeting services or methods of access.

Both the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) advised residents to take extra measures to put distance between themselves and other people to further reduce the risk of being exposed to COVID-19. Additionally, the CDC and DPH advised high-risk individuals, including people over the age of 60, anyone with underlying health conditions or a weakened immune system and pregnant women, to avoid large gatherings.

Additionally, the order

relieves the requirement that a quorum of members be physically present at a public meeting. During this period, members may all participate by remote or virtual means.

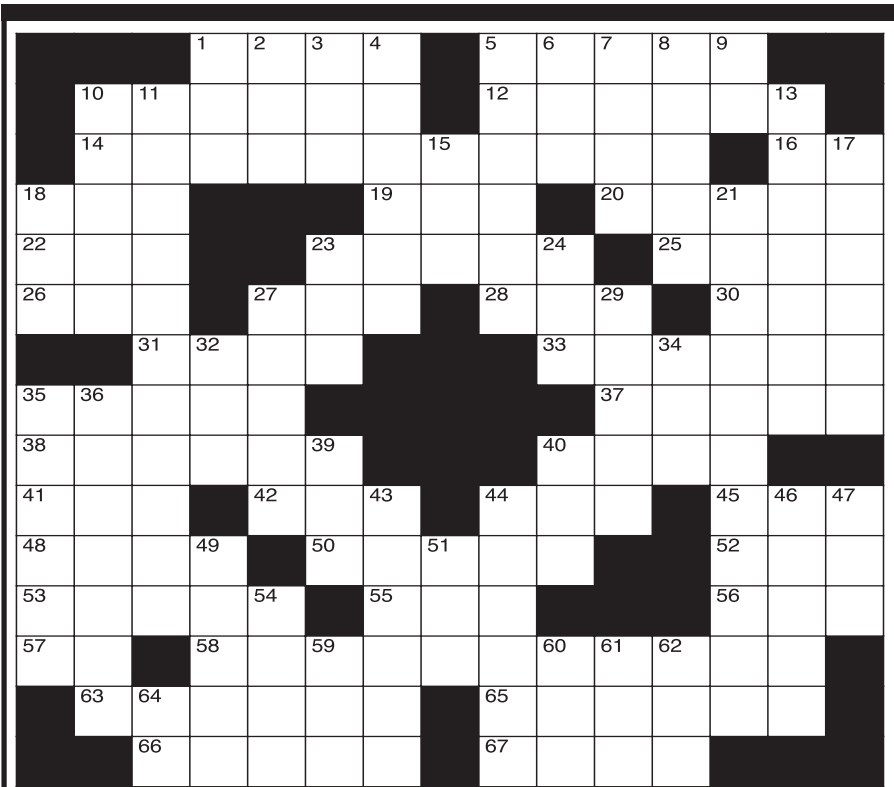
This order is applicable to meetings of public bodies including commissions, boards and committees that engage in policy making at the state, quasi and local level and it does not apply to Town Meetings or judicial and quasi-judicial hearings. It follows Governor Baker's declaration of a State of Emergency Wednesday, March 11, and it will remain in place until rescinded or the State of Emergency is terminated.

WCCD holds annual plant and seedling sale fundraiser

WORCESTER – The Worcester County Conservation District (WCCD) will hold its plant and seedling fundraiser inviting homeowners, farms, forestland owners, businesses and institutions to purchase bare root seedling trees, shrub, edibles and potted perennials.

The fundraiser enables the WCCD to provide conservations assistance in cooperation with the USDA-NRCS, to landowners on issues related to water quality, pollution, erosion control, forest management and farm resource management. It will also provide funding for educational sessions and workshops hosted by the WCCD year round, Envirothon grants and a scholarship program.

The plant and seedling fundraiser offers a selection of favorite plants and new options. Pre-order from now through March 29. Pick-up purchased plants Saturday, May 2 at one of six locations across Worcester County. Pick up locations are: Jordan Dairy Farm, 51 Muschopauge Road, Rutland; Sholan Farms, 1125 Pleasant St., Leominster; Davidian Brothers Farm, 500 Church St., Northborough; Cooper's Farm, 515 Henshaw St., Rochdale; Douglas Orchard and Farm, 36 Locust St., Douglas and Red Apple Farm, 455 Highland Ave., Phillipston. WCCD has a comprehensive website to view products and place orders at www.worcester-conservation.org.



CLUES ACROSS

- Currency of Guinea
- Sounds
- Immediate dangers
- Legendary Tar Heels coach
- Californium
- Work standards government dept. (abbr.)
- Coastal Scottish town
- Triangular lower back bones
- Trouble
- A way to smile
- Something that is not what it seems
- Of she
- Temporary living quarters
- Bag-like structure in a plant or animal
- Indicates near

- Spiritual leader
- Soup dish
- Philippine island
- No longer fashionable
- Peaks
- Alabama football team
- King Cole
- Digital audiotape
- Open trough
- The woman
- Cools down
- Turkic language
- Body part
- Pulse steadily
- Embedded computer hardware company
- Indicates shape
- Thou (plural)
- Odd and remarkable
- An evening party
- National capital of Zambia
- Tantalizes

CLUES DOWN

- Not naturally outgoing
- Exclamation of pain
- Polynesian garland of flowers
- Surrounded by water
- Church towers
- Hot beverage
- Body parts
- Travel documents
- Railway
- Gradually wear away
- Measuring instrument
- Minor dust-ups
- Strongly alkaline solution
- Extreme scarcity of food
- Dash
- Philly culinary specialty
- Popular lager

- Adams
- Snitch
- Trimmed
- Greek god of desire
- Take to the limit
- Cool!
- Sound mental health
- Native American group
- Test for high schoolers
- Rocky peak
- Preferences
- Bother
- Call attention to (slang)
- Snake-like fish
- Bulgarian capital
- Don't know when yet
- Italian Seaport
- Brooklyn hoopster
- Where to bathe
- Equal, prefix
- Beverage container
- Denotes openness

ANSWERS ON PAGE 16

REMINDER:
APRIL 30TH IS THE DEADLINE TO REMOVE STUDDED TIRES

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LOCAL Opportunity IS KNOCKING

STAFF WRITER POSITION

Turley Publications is seeking an energetic person to fill the position of staff writer for two of its weekly publications: the *Ware River News*, which covers Ware, Hardwick and Warren, and the *Quabog Current*, which covers the Brookfields, Sturbridge and New Braintree. This full-time position is based in our Ware office at 80 Main St. The successful candidate will have strong community journalism skills or the enthusiasm to develop them. The staff writer will cover municipal meetings, features and general news; essentially everything that unfolds in small towns. Assignments will be for both newspapers as well as other companywide publications.

Qualifications should include:

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience
- Own camera and photography experience preferred
- Enthusiasm for community journalism
- Ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced environment

Please email resume and three writing samples directly to Eileen Kennedy Managing Editor at ekennedy@turley.com.

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Have Something to Share?

Send your stories and photos to edowner@turley.com



Calendar of Events



Postponements and cancellations due to the coronavirus pandemic

MOC CFCE temporarily suspended playgroups and other family events until April 1. Governor Baker declared a state of emergency hoping to contain the spread of the coronavirus across the Commonwealth. The Parent Child Plus program will continue to operate with your Early Learning Specialist continuing to visit with enrolled.

The Barre Congregational Church will not hold Sunday worship service Sunday, March 22. The Women’s Fellowship of the church postponed its tea and lunch.

North Brookfield Savings Bank postponed its free five-week financial literacy program, which was scheduled from April 2 through April 30.

North Brookfield Savings Bank postponed its free homebuyers and brews homebuyers’ night scheduled for April 30 at Oakholm Brewing Co. in Brookfield.

Massachusetts 4-H programs, activities and club meeting are cancelled until further notice. This includes advisory councils, fair boards, horse advisories and events. Groups are allowed to meet virtually.

Oakham Congregational Church will postpone its breakfast and annual Easter Egg hunt, both scheduled for April 4. If the situation improves the breakfast and egg hunt may be rescheduled for after Easter.

Oakham Congregational Church will not hold Sunday worship services March 22 and 29.

Gavin Majoy, a Project 351 ambassador from New Braintree, postponed his service project until further notice.

Hubbardston Senior Center, 7A Main St., Hubbardston is closed until Tuesday, March 31. The eggs will still be available Thursdays at the same time and produce will still be available Wednesdays and Fridays with pickup outside. People may call the senior center at 978-928-1400, extension 211 with any questions.

Tick Talk sponsored by Holden Grange scheduled for Monday, March 23 at the Holden Senior Center is cancelled.

Friends of the Stone Church in Gilbertville postponed its spring concert on March 29 and the silent film “Peter Pan” on April 18. Updates will be posted at FriendsoftheStoneChruch.org.

The Gardner Museum, following recommendations from local and state health officials and American

Alliance of Museums guidelines in response to ongoing COVID-19 prevention measures, will be closed to the public effective immediately until March 31.

Stage on Main, 17 South Main St., Orange has suspended all events until April 1 as a precaution against COVID-19.

Tri-Parish Community Church in New Braintree will not hold Sunday worship service March 22. The potluck supper for Saturday, March 21 has been postponed.

Fobes Memorial Library in Oakham will be closed to the public until March 31, a which time the situation will be reassessed. Library staff will be available to answer calls and assist with digital resources.

All Barre Town Buildings will be closed to the public, except by appointment and include the Henry Woods Building, Woods Memorial Library, the Council on Aging (senior center), old Town Hall, the public safety building, fire stations and DPW. Please call an office before visiting in many cases staff is able to assist over the phone or by mail. Meals on Wheels program and wellness checks for seniors will continue.

The town of Hubbardston is closing all town buildings to the public until March 31. Offices will continue to provide services of the government to residents. The closure will result in the delivery of services remotely. All public safety operations will continue.

Theatre at the Mount (TAM) at Mount Wachusett Community College in Gardner has cancelled their production of “Beauty and the Beast, Jr.” scheduled for April 5-10. Tickets purchased online will be refunded back to the credit card used for purchase, within 30 days. Cash purchases will be refunded upon request by phone at 978-630-9388 or by email at box-office@mwcc.mass.edu.

The Haston Free Public Library in North Brookfield library trustees decided to close the library effective immediately until at least April 6. Library staff will be on site for short periods Monday through Thursday to collect mail and respond to phone messages.

April art exhibition hosted by the Hardwick Historical Society and featuring local artist Frank J. Bly scheduled for April 4 and 5 at the Hardwick Town House, Hardwick Common, has been postponed indefinitely.

2020 Ware Bridal Fair, a community bridal event hosted by Dioguardi Jewelers for March 21, has been postponed until further notice.

Worcester Art Museum closes until at least March 27

WORCESTER – In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, the Worcester Art Museum (WAM), 55 Salisbury St., has made the decision to close to the public, effective March 14 through at least Friday, March 27. Understanding that circumstances are very fluid, WAM will reassess the situation regularly to determine our reopen date.

In addition, the following WAM programs and events have been cancelled:

- Studio Classes and Partnership Programs, Adult Winter Classes
- Adult Winter Workshops
- Youth Winter Session 2 Classes
- The Clemente Program
- Sunday Public Tours, Zip Tours, Tours of the Month, and Artful Play 4
- Art Carts

- Arms and Armor Presentations
- March 19: Master Series
- March 19: Teen Night
- March 19: Open Door Gallery Reception

• March 22: Youth Art Month Reception

• April 24: Kimono Couture: The Beauty of Chiso Opening Celebration

Note: People that already registered for a class, WAM will exchange it for prorated credit (via promo code), issue a prorated refund or gratefully accept it as a donation toward WAM and its programming. To do so, people may contact 508-793-4333 or transactions@worcesterart.org.

Art has always been an expression of the human experi-

ence-through good and difficult times-and it has helped communities come together, respect shared values and expand horizons. In spite of these difficult times, WAM will work hard to continue to provide opportunities to interact with the art via social media, website and other virtual outlets. Even with the museum’s doors temporarily closed, it will do its best to continue to deliver on its mission of connecting people, communities and cultures through the experience of art.

People may check the website and social media platforms for updates and future announcements, including the reopen date. WAM have some outstanding exhibitions and programs planned that it looks forward to presenting.

AAA offers video contest for high school students

AAA Northeast invites high school students living in AAA Northeast territory to participate in the 2020 Traffic Safety Video Contest and create a 30 second video PSA to educate motorists of any age on the risks of marijuana-impaired driving. The grand prize winner will be awarded \$5,000.

Contest rules can be found at

AAA.com/VideoContest. Video entries should be uploaded and submitted via www.AAA.com/VideoContest by midnight Monday, April 13. The public is invited to view students’ submissions and “like” their favorite video on that website between April 20-30. The top five videos, determined by the number of “likes,” will be posted to AAA Northeast’s Instagram account at AAANortheast

than doubles crash risk. “While the contest is for high school students, the message is relevant for drivers of all ages. Marijuana legalization and decriminalization in many states has led to an attitudinal shift about the drug. Drivers need to understand that driving under the influence of THC can increase crash risk up to 200 percent. AAA is able to offer a create platform for students to spread awareness about impaired driving,” said Diana Imondi, AAA Northeast’s senior manager of public affairs.

AAA Northeast also provides direct education to students in high school health classes through the Shifting Gears: The Blunt Truth About Marijuana and Driving program. This lesson, designed for high school students and endorsed by Brown University’s School of Public Health, highlights the effects of marijuana use on the teenage brain with a particular focus on the dangers of drugged driving. AAA believes that education about marijuana-impaired driving designed and created by students can be effective in preventing crashes.

People may visit www.AAA.com/ShiftingGears to learn about AAA’s free educational program for high schoolers on marijuana impaired driving.

Where is this?



Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer

This week’s mystery photo is from New Braintree. If any readers know where this photo was taken, they may email edowner@turley.com or call the Barre Gazette at 413-967-3505, extension 100 with their answer by noon on Monday, March 23. The names of those that correctly guessed the location will appear in next week’s edition. Dick Clark, Rosemary Horan and Andrew Warfield correctly identified last week’s photo. Last week’s photo was the Hubbardston Rod and Gun Club, Williamsville Road, Hubbardston.

Grant provides NEECA with trail equipment

ATHOL – Last year NEECA submitted a grant application for equipment and trails expansion to the Mass Recreational Trails Program. NEECA, the 250-acre municipal park with an emphasis on equestrian use, is excited to be given this grant.

The John Deere Gator is truly multi-purpose, equipped with a winch, two and four wheel drives and a med bed in the rear, which may be slid out to use the rear like a truck and all the other “bells and whistles.” This will be

a park “work horse,” pulling trees off trails, moving big objects from location to location, and when needed, transport people. NEECA has offered this vehicle to the Athol Fire Department and the Athol Police Department for use in emergencies where it may be of use.

The Gator was delivered to Athol on March 14 and Dave of Padula Brothers John Deere, which was lowest of three estimates gath-

ered, introduced the new acquisition to a group of NEECA Board of Directors and members. He explained the features and answered many questions. Then there was some exciting test driving of the vehicle.

NEECA thanks the Mass Recreational Trails Program for this award, which will also fund new trails this summer.



NJROTC BALL, continued from page 1

this year. It adds to the entire evening.”

While the ball has been going on since the onset of NJROTC at Quabbin in 1967, the Lock In began in 2015, a year following the untimely passing of Quabbin senior cadet Jeremy Kauppila in a car accident, after attending a post-ball party.

“We tell Jeremy’s story every year, it’s an important story to tell,” said Lt. Kathleen Frydel, one of the Naval Science Instructors for the Quabbin NJROTC program and according to her colleague Captain Dan Brennock, the creative genius behind the Lock In. “Jeremy is why we do the Lock In.”

Although the latter event has also become a paramount part of the night, a fun filled formal evening of elegance takes place before the Lock In even begins.

“I would describe the Ball the same way the cadets describe the NJROTC Ball, the best social event of the school year, not just for the cadets, but for the student guests who are invited to accompany a cadet,” stated Brennock. “The differences between the NJROTC Ball and a prom are based in the rules of etiquette that are taught and expected, the emphasis on rules of conduct, the military ceremonial portions, and the fact the ball is planned from start to finish by the cadets.”

Held at the grand Colonial Hotel in Gardner, close to 100 cadets and their escorts enjoyed a lovely dinner, dancing and a variety of NJROTC traditions. At the conclusion of the ball, participants immediately headed to Quabbin to begin a much more casual phase two of the highly anticipated night.

“The Lock In is not mandatory, but is strongly encouraged,” Brennock said. “Ninety percent of those, who attend the ball participated in the Lock In. Those that did not, went home. There are no post ball parties in private homes since we instituted the Lock In in 2015.”

As the cadets and their guests were changing out of their formal attire into casual clothes after posing for the fun group photo, Lt. Frydel took a couple of minutes to speak about the 2020 Lock In agenda.

“Every year we try to change it up,” Frydel said. “Last year, we had

the Amazing Race theme. This year we are doing a Just Dance event and a murder mystery game.”

Essentially split in half to fill up close to seven hours the Lock In covers (midnight to 7 a.m.), the Just Dance portion had everyone splitting into eight different groups, rehearsing a dance number and then getting back together as the large group to perform for one another in the high school auditorium.

The (of course fake) murder mystery took place all around the school after the dance competition, as clues were left scattered around with the goal to find out who killed victim Greg Devine, the principal of Quabbin Middle/High School. After the cadets broke into small groups, only by working together were they able to solve the mystery.

Frydel admitted the preparation was a huge task, but well worth the effort for the cadets to be able to have fun and stay safe.

“From the minute they get here until breakfast, we keep them moving,” added Frydel.

Aside from Frydel and Brennock, over a dozen chaperones were needed for the Lock In, which included past NJROTC students, parents of current NJROTC students and Wayne and Pam Kaupilla, parents of Jeremy.

“We had been invited from the beginning, but last year we were finally able to come,” said a thoughtful Pam Kaupilla, who has been holding the late summer event, “Keeping Memories Alive,” a motorcycle ride and barbecue fundraiser that has helped to support the Lock In, on behalf of their son. “Lt. was right, it was fun last year. To me the Lock In is about keeping kids safe and keeping the fun going. It brings it here (Quabbin) instead of someone’s house. Regardless if the kids drove to the Lock In, they’re picked up in the morning, so they’re not driving home too tired.”

For former students Tony Guyer (class of 2017), Jordan Salovardos (class of 2019) and Devin Lyden (class of 2018), all three valued their time in NJROTC so much and felt so strongly about the importance of holding the Lock In, giving up a night’s sleep to volunteer was the least they felt they could do.

“NJROTC had such a big impact on my life, it helped keep my moral

structure in check,” said Guyer. “I also like seeing the progress of my former unit.”

“When I was a freshman, I was quiet and shy,” Salovardos said. “NJROTC had me do things that got me out of my comfort zone. They made things easier for me to go out and make friends.”

“I really like coming back,” revealed Devin Lyden. “NJROTC gave me a sense of structure and pushed me in a direction to my future. Plus I like seeing my sister (Lexie) who is a cadet in the program now.”

NJROTC Commanding Officer Morgan Whitney was in fine spirits slightly after one a.m., choreographing his group to the song, “I Will Survive,” proving his leadership skills could easily transfer to dancing skills.

“This is a lot of fun – leading people isn’t hard at any capacity,” Whitney said. “As long as I can make it fun for my group – I’ve accomplished the goal. Plus, I’ve watched the video a lot of times before I started teaching them the dance.”

All kidding aside, Whitney was also grateful to have the Lock In in place.

“There is a message behind the importance of having this,” shared Whitney. “Being able to have fun without substances is important.”

Sophomore Lexie Lyden agreed. “I had a lot of fun at the Lock In and got to spend time with people I normally don’t see,” said Lexie Lyden. “I think it’s important to have. It keeps the cadets and guests safe, while allowing us to continue our night of fun. We are entertained and no one gets hurt.”

Although an extremely long night for Brennock and Frydel, both enjoyed the end results.

“Did I have fun?” remarked Brennock a few days later. “When I watch cadets and guests at the ball and Lock In and see the smiles on their faces as each song is spun by the D.J., and when I watch them race through the halls of the school working together in their small team competitions, and when I see the enthusiasm and hear the joy in their voices, well, I’m having a great time. I’m having fun, the lieutenant is having fun, and we can’t imagine doing anything as worthwhile with our lives after serving in our nation’s Navy.”

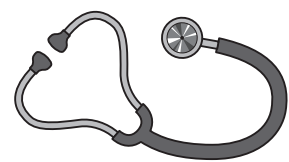
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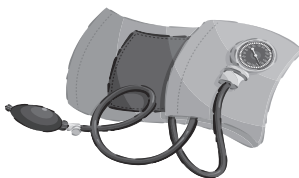
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Social distancing helps stop the spread of COVID-19

SPRINGFIELD – Federal health officials are concerned that Americans are not listening to the warning when it comes to “social distancing” and preventing the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

As of March 15, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), recommended that for the next 8 weeks, organizers (whether groups or individuals) cancel or postpone in-person events that consist of 50 people or more throughout the country. Examples of large events and mass gatherings include conferences, festivals, parades, concerts, sporting events, weddings and other types of assemblies.

“I can’t stress enough the importance of social distancing in our efforts to stop the spread of the novel coronavirus COVID-19,” said Dr. Armando Paez, chief, Infectious Diseases, Baystate Medical Center.

What exactly is “social distancing?”

Social distancing, the term often used by infectious disease and control specialists and public health officials, means staying away from other people, in other words, avoiding crowds, and maintaining a personal distance – approximately 6 feet – from others when possible.

It is the close contact between individuals, whether at home, at work, or out in the public that has resulted in the World Health Organization now referring to COVID-19 as a pandemic, noted Dr. Paez.

“Maintaining a distance, especially from someone who is sick and is coughing and sneezing, is important because when that person coughs or sneezes, they spray small liquid droplets from their nose or mouth which may contain the COVID-19 virus or any other virus. If you are too close to them,

then you can breathe in the droplets and become infected. Equally important is the fact that you could be infectious, yet have no symptoms, and spread the disease to others,” said Dr. Paez.

“We have now begun to see mass closings of amusement parks, bars and restaurants, movie theaters, religious services, schools, some stores and many other measures, including companies and organizations recommending employees work from home, all with the intent to prevent the spread of COVID-19,” he added.

According to the CDC, older people are twice as likely to have serious illness from the novel coronavirus and they are advising people over 60 with underlying health problems to “stay at home as much as possible.” That means keeping a social distance by avoiding air travel, going to movie theaters, attending family events, and shopping at crowded malls, for exam-

ple, which applies to everyone – not just seniors.

“What we know from researchers is that the fatality rate is likely to be higher among older adults. As we age, our immune system weakens in its ability to fight off viruses and infections. Also, chronic health conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, pulmonary disease and others make it harder for their already weakened bodies to cope with the additional strain placed on them by COVID-19,” said Dr. Paez.

One powerful example of the importance of social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic is the Biogen meeting held in Boston, which became the epicenter of the Massachusetts outbreak as the virus spread at an alarming rate through the two-day conference. Yet an even more telling example back during the 1918 flu pandemic, as documented in Smithsonian

Magazine, is when Philadelphia went ahead with a scheduled World War I parade in September of that year. There were 200,000 people lining city streets and within three days, the inevitable happened, every hospital bed in the city’s 31 hospitals was occupied with a flu patient.

You might even want to keep a social distance from your doctor’s office, noted Dr. Paez.

“If you are going to see your doctor for a routine checkup, you might want to check with the office first. They might suggest a later date when the virus is under control, unless your doctor is seeing you for an ongoing condition and needs to see you in person, or you have developed concerning symptoms that might require a visit to the office,” said Dr. Paez.

Social distancing also means reconsidering how we greet one another in social situations.

“The handshake is out, at least

for now. Many people over the years have already become more accustomed to saying, ‘I’m not shaking hands because I have a cold.’ But, we have to take that one step further and not shake anyone’s hand, even if you’re healthy. Handshaking results in transferring viruses and bacteria from one person to another, and that means the new coronavirus,” said Dr. Paez.

What to do instead? Give a bow, wave, do the elbow bump. People will understand.

“We all need to do our part to help prevent the spread of this deadly virus. The time to take action is now before it is too late, when as a country many are only now coming to the realization that social distancing is the only way to stop the community spread of coronavirus COVID-19,” said Dr. Paez.

For more information, people may visit baystatehealth.org/covid19 and follow us on our social media channels:

American Red Cross faces severe blood shortage

REGION – The American Red Cross now faces a severe blood shortage due to an unprecedented number of blood drive cancellations in response to the coronavirus outbreak. Healthy individuals are needed now to donate to help patients counting on lifesaving blood.

Individuals can schedule an appointment to give blood with the Red Cross by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, calling 1-800-RED-CROSS or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device.

As the coronavirus pandemic has grown here in the U.S., blood drive cancellations have grown at an alarming rate. To date, nearly 2,700 Red Cross blood drives have been canceled across the country due to concerns about congregating at workplaces, college campuses and schools amidst the coronavirus outbreak. These cancellations have resulted in some 86,000 fewer blood donations. More than 80 percent of the blood the Red Cross collects comes from drives held at locations of this type.

Here in Massachusetts, 115 blood drives have been cancelled, resulting in 3130 fewer blood donations. The Red Cross is adding appointment slots at donation centers and expanding capacity at many community blood drives across the country over the next few weeks to ensure ample opportunities for donors to give.

Volunteer donors are the only source of blood for those in need.

The Red Cross expects the number of cancellations to continue to increase, which is causing heightened concern for blood collection organizations and hospitals across the country. This blood shortage could impact patients who need surgery, victims of car accidents and other emergencies, or patients suffering from cancer.

“I am looking at the refrigerator that contains only one day’s supply of blood for the hospital,” said Dr. Robertson Davenport, director of transfusion medicine at Michigan Medicine in Ann Arbor.

“The hospital is full. There are patients who need blood and cannot wait.”

“In our experience, the American public comes together to support those in need during times of shortage and that support is needed now more than ever during this unprecedented public health crisis,” said Chris Hrouda, president, Red Cross Biomedical Services. “Unfortunately, when people stop donating blood, it forces doctors to make hard choices about patient care, which is why we need those who are healthy and well to roll up a sleeve and give the gift of life.”

The Red Cross is committed to blood drive safety.

“We know that people want to help, but they may be hesitant to visit a blood drive during this time. We want to assure the public that blood donation is a safe process, and we have put additional precautions in place at our blood drives and donation centers to protect all who come out,” said Hrouda.

The Red Cross has implemented new measures to ensure blood drives and donation centers are even safer for our donors and staff, including:

- Checking the temperature of staff and donors before entering a drive to make sure they are healthy.
- Providing hand sanitizer for use before the drive, as well as throughout the donation process.
- Spacing beds, where possible, to follow social distancing practices between blood donors.
- Increasing enhanced disinfecting of surfaces and equipment.

At each blood drive and donation center, Red Cross employees already follow thorough safety protocols to help prevent the spread of any type of infection, including:

- Wearing gloves and changing gloves with each donor.
- Routinely wiping down donor-touched areas.
- Using sterile collection sets for every donation.
- Preparing the arm for

donation with an aseptic scrub.

There is no data or evidence that this coronavirus can be transmitted by blood transfusion, and there have been no reported cases of transfusion transmission for any respiratory virus including this coronavirus worldwide.

“Volunteer donors are the unsung heroes for patients in need of lifesaving blood transfusions. If you are healthy, feeling well and eligible to give, please schedule an appointment to give now,” added Hrouda.

Blood donation process

To donate blood, individuals need to bring a blood donor card or driver’s license or two other forms of identification that are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also must meet certain height and weight requirements.

Donors can also save up to 15 minutes at the blood drive by completing a RapidPass®. With RapidPass®, donors complete the pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of donation, from a mobile device or computer. To complete a RapidPass®, follow the instructions at RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or use the Red Cross Blood Donor App.

About the American Red Cross

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40% of the nation’s blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit redcross.org or cruz-rojaamericana.org, or visit us on Twitter at @RedCross.

Baystate Health makes changes to visitor’s policy

SPRINGFIELD – Baystate Health announced an additional measure to its recently announced change in visitor policy as it continues to take preemptive measures to protect the health and safety of its patients, the community and its healthcare workers.

One visitor per patient at a time and now, no one other than that one visitor can enter the building.

Visitors experiencing symptoms of fever and/or cough should not visit.

The policy is in effect at all Baystate Health hospitals, including Baystate Medical Center and Baystate Children’s Hospital in Springfield, Baystate Wing Hospital in Palmer, Baystate

Franklin Medical Center in Greenfield and Baystate Noble Hospital in Westfield. Additionally, for Baystate Children’s Hospital, no visitors are allowed under the age of 12.

Additional new information also follows:

At doctor’s offices and other outpatient sites including X-ray, Lab, Rehab, etc., in order to reduce exposure in the waiting rooms of the doctors’ offices and other outpatient settings:

If a person is experiencing symptoms of fever and/or cough, please call ahead to inform the office.

Patients should come to appointments alone or be accom-

panied by just one other person, if needed.

Baystate Health discourages patients from bringing children to their appointments with them.

People who are experiencing symptoms of fever and/or cough should not accompany patients to their appointment.

Baystate Health’s visitation policing during this time is designed to reduce patient and employee exposure to illness. Visitation is at the discretion of Baystate Health and exceptions are at the discretion of the nurse or physician.

For more information on Baystate Health, people may visit baystatehealth.org.



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Cannabis Control Commission to operate remotely

WORCESTER – The Cannabis Control Commission issued an industry bulletin relative to the Commonwealth's Coronavirus (COVID-19) State of Emergency Friday, March 13.

In addition to highlighting mitigating measures that licensees and certifying health care providers should use to ensure, preserve and promote public health, the commission is notifying the public that its physical offices closed until further notice starting Monday, March 16. The agency invested in significant technology capabilities that enable staff to work remotely to sustain all commission operations including patient support, licensing, and enforcement functions, during this time.

In the commission's bulletin, licensees and certifying health care providers were made aware of state and federal guidance pertaining to COVID-19. Employers have been advised to encourage good hygiene, urge employees to stay home when they feel sick and be flexible and

considerate with sick leave benefits amongst other precautions.

The commission noted agents may handle marijuana and marijuana products during cultivation and manufacturing processes and interact with patients, who may be immunocompromised or otherwise vulnerable as well as adult-use customers. As a result, licensees have been asked to consider and publicize protocols that may reduce the risk of exposure including line and queue management, mobile or order-ahead features, appointment-only operations and increased frequency of cleaning and sterilization efforts.

Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers have been advised they may consider the promotion and geographic expansion of delivery service and to remind patients of the ability to acquire up to a 60-day medical grade marijuana supply. Pursuant to 935 CMR 501.010, certifying health care providers were reminded that patient renewal certifications may be submitted

after telephonic consultation, as long as a clinical visit has occurred within the past year.

Commission staff began working remotely Monday, March 16 to sustain commission operations and can be reached through their usual contacts. The patient support center phone lines will remain open to callers from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Investigators and Compliance Officers will continue to work in the field wearing mandated personal protective equipment.

The agency continues to evaluate protocols with respect to inspections and other business including public meetings. The commission is committed to undertaking every effort to ensure minimal disruption to productivity while ensuring the safety of staff and the public.

For more information, people may contact MassCannabisControl.Com, 774-415-0200, Commission@CCCMass.Com or follow the agency on Facebook and Twitter.

Massachusetts casinos now closed

The Massachusetts Gaming Commission voted unanimously to temporarily suspend operation at the state's three casino properties, including Encore Boston Harbor, MGM Springfield and Plainridge Park Casino.

In response to the coronavirus pandemic, the decision was made in collaboration and cooperation with their licensees to safeguard the health and well-being of casino guests, employees, and regulators. This decision will be re-assessed in two weeks, while an orderly shutdown process was completed as of March 15.

People are encouraged to visit massgaming.com/COVID19 for the latest information.



Shown from left, are Barre Senior Center director, Eileen Clarkson, Barre Senior Center site manager, Jayne Day and Senior Buddies Group member, Mary Ann Watson.

SENIORS, continued from page 1

the kitchen whenever possible. For years, she has mentioned and talked about getting a commercial steam table, which would help keep the meals warm as they serve them. It is nothing that she ever expected because even a small unit would cost several thousands of dollars.

As luck would have it, someone mentioned that they had seen an ad in Facebook Market Place for a used steam table in the Leominster area. She went to look at it and thought that it would be a great addition to the local lunch program. It was in good used condition, but how could she ever get this commercial unit for Barre?

In the spring of 2018, a Senior Buddies Group was initiated with the intent of providing some support for the Council On Aging. Although many people helped, the driving force was Mary Ann Watson. She gave the push and others followed. In the past year and a half, under the leadership of Jayne Day, they have managed to raise some funds for use at the senior center. They have sold cookies, desserts and snacks at functions. They have sponsored several "special meals" that have been very popular and almost always sell out. The Senior Buddies were the impetus behind the Crafts Fair held at the senior center in December and they have also held several raffles. Senior center director Eileen Clarkson even contacted the Barre Lions Club secretary, who had mentioned that the Lions Club was always looking to aid local causes. Barre Lions Club president, Dana Hardy, suggested that the club make a donation to speed up the process to get the steam table. The Barre Lions Club unanimously approved a donation to the Senior Buddies to help in their efforts.

The steam table is now at the Barre Senior Center and is being used daily. It has been delivered, cleaned and outfitted with new plugs and outlets to give it greater mobility. It is a great addition to the kitchen and is being used daily in the lunch program. Thanks to all who have supported the Senior Buddies. Come check out the new steam table and while you are at it, check out the Senior Center. You will find daily activities, games, cards, jigsaw puzzles, educational sessions, exercise classes, health and insurance information, screenings and more. The senior center hours are Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, people may contact or call Eileen Clarkson, the director of the senior center at 978-355-5004.



Turley Publications Submitted Photos
Shown helping serve lunch from behind the steam table are from left, Gloria Judd, Theloa Benedict and Jayne Day.

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Quabbin boys have final game against German visitors



By Karen A. Lewis
Sports Correspondent

BARRE - Excitement was in the air, the fans were in the stands, basketball was the name of the game – for all five quarters, when the Quabbin boys basketball team hosted and played against a team of German exchange students recently in the high school gym.

“Quabbin is pretty good, they had a lot of energy,” said German player Thora Koppel, one of four girls who chose to play in the game. “They have a really strong fan base.”

An enthusiastic crowd came out to watch as the special exchange program played their annual friendly basketball match, during a week filled with educational opportunities, cultural experiences and lots of fun for the special German guests.

“This is the third year we’ve done this,” German coach and chaperone Nicholas Behne said. “We have 18 students over here – four girls and 14 boys, 12 opted to play basketball today.”

Quabbin boys basketball head coach Dennis Dextradeur explained

See QUABBIN, page 10



German player Constantin Grujicic tries to get past Quabbin's Shea Skowyra (#15) and Brendan Whitelaw.



Quabbin's Ryan Kowal guards a German opponent while his team watches from the bench.



Quabbin's Devin Pride guards a German player with the ball.



German exchange student Thora Koppel hangs tough with Panther Ryan Wagher as he heads toward the basket with the ball.

Quabbin's Shea Skowyra goes up against his German houseguest Constantin Grujicic at a friendly game of basketball recently.

Photos by Karen A. Lewis

Sports world crippled by coronavirus

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

It feels like to some, the sports world has been literally the “most” affected by the spread of the coronavirus.

Changes are happening every day related to the virus so much in fact that our weekly papers had a very tough time keeping up with them last week.

Now, the changes have started to slow down, because here in Western Massachusetts, there is not much more that can be done to bring the world to a crawl.

Even before many schools made the decision at the end of last week to close their doors for two weeks, the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association closed down the conclusion of the state tournament, shut fans out, and delayed the start of the spring sports season by at least two weeks.

But is delaying spring sports by

two weeks really a new concept in Massachusetts? Absolutely not. Excessive March snow and cold temperatures slowing the melting process has delayed baseball and softball seasons for between one and two weeks for the last few years.

Last year, the regular season was extended by a week to accommodate the poor weather for the springtime and give schools a chance to play all their regular season games.

The only disappointing part for many athletes, is that it appeared for a while we had an early spring coming with baseball and softball fields already drained, and the grass lacrosse fields just about fit for play on the actual days teams are supposed to open in late March.

But like Major League Baseball, which delayed the start of its season, the start of the spring sports season cannot go on.

The MIAA has also mandated

that coaches are not able to have anything to do with their teams, much like the current rules that exist during sport offseasons. That means, with two weeks off from school and no coaching guidance, and then add in almost no facilities to use, athletes will be on their own to stay in shape and be ready to go if the MIAA allows spring practices to begin on March 30.

But that is not the only piece of the sports world that is affected. So many youth organizations and parks departments have also been forced to stop practices and seasons and tournaments due to concern for the coronavirus.

During the past week, the 36th iteration of the Szlats Memorial Tournament was just halted after only two days of competition by the tournament committee because Chicopee Public Schools had to shut down their facilities.

Other great season-ending

See CORONAVIRUS, page 10

State tournament halted before finals, Road Race cancelled

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION – Last week, the sports world was changed forever when the coronavirus pandemic cancelled the MIAA state championship games, and the professional sports world went into a domino effect that has led to the stoppage of play in all games and tournaments.

As the situation developed, the MIAA had started to play the state championship semifinal games, which included Minnechaug and

Monson girls basketball.

But midway through the Monson game, it was announced that all semifinal winners would be considered “co-state champions.”

Monson's game was one of a few that was played without fans before sporting events were stopped altogether in an effort exercise a new buzzword known as “social distancing.”

Locally, one of the biggest impacts to the area occurred last Tuesday afternoon when Holyoke Mayor Alex Morse announced

the cancellation of the St. Patrick's Day Parade, and with it, the popular St. Patrick's Road Race, which was set to kick off on Saturday, March 21.

The event is cancelled and will not be made up due to the immense amount of planning and work with sponsors, public safety, sanitation, and other officials needed to make the event happen.

“It's not something you can just postpone for a couple of

See SPRING SPORTS, page 10

Open Cup postponed, no makeup date yet announced

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—The Western Mass. Pioneers have made a total of 11 appearances in the Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup, which is the oldest ongoing national soccer competition in the United States, since 1998.

The Pioneers have been invited by U.S. Soccer to participate in the 107th edition of the elite tournament after not qualifying a year ago.

But the Pioneers will have to wait a while before it has the opportunity to take part in the event after the coronavirus pandemic has led to the event being postponed.

The Pioneers were originally scheduled to play GPS Portland on Tuesday, March 24.

“We're very excited to be playing in another Open Cup match at Lusitano Stadium,” said Pioneers General Manager Greg Kolodziej. “It's always a fun tournament and it's a very good opportunity for the boys to play against some very good teams.”

In the past, the Open Cup has always started in May, but U.S. Soccer decided to begin this year's tournament a couple of months earlier. With the ban on large events, it looks like the Cup may have to wait until May again.

“Because of our league rules, we won't have access to any of the college players until the start of the regular season in May,” Kolodziej said. “We'll have to piece together a roster for our first Open Cup game. We do have some older



Photo by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Daniel Fabian converges with an opponent for possession of the ball during the Pioneers last Open Cup appearance in 2018.

players from last year's team that should be available to us. We'll be signing players during the next couple of weeks.”

Federico Molinari will be returning as the Pioneers head coach.

The last time that the Pioneers won an Open Cup match was in 2014 when they defeated Mass. Premier Soccer, 4-1 at home in the first round. They then lost, 2-1, to the Rochester Rhinos (USL Pro) in a second-round road match. The Pioneers suffered first round losses at Lusitano Stadium in 2015, 2017,

and 2018.

“We haven't had very much luck playing in the Open Cup during the past couple of years,” Kolodziej said. “We're hoping to turn things around this year.”

The Pioneers did have a very memorable 2019 campaign. They finished the regular season with an 11-0-3 record and captured the Northeast Division title. The Western Mass. squad defeated North Carolina Fusion U-23 by the final score of 3-1 in the confer-

See OPEN CUP, page 10

Sports

Bondsville Bowling News

By Dave Smigiel

After tonight one week remains in our regular season before the playoffs. The Central division has a new leader as the Night Hawks have taken that spot by getting past the Fans of Kayce Smith 5-2 in a high scoring affair where all winning strings were decided with team singles over 500. The Fans took the opener with a 507 as Mike Nicholson's super 140 (tops this week) along with Tom Clauson's 107 and 106's by Rich Dunnack and Brian Rowe countered Gavin Sinclair's 119 and Dave Fennyery's 107. The Hawks rebounded in the final two with singles of 506 and 510 of their own. It was Gavin's excellent 134 combined with Dave's 119 and Darryl Sinclair's 116 that did the trick in the second. The Fans bowled well with 491 (Rick and Mike-107, Brian 116 and Tom 113) but still came up short. The rubber game was all Hawks as Gavin recorded 107 (360 triple), Dave a dynamite 135 (361) and Darryl 129 (342). 109's by Rich (322) and Mike (356) and Tom's 107 (327) wasn't enough. Brian totaled 317 in the losing effort. Pinfall by 15 to the Hawks.

Meanwhile Sandri has fallen to second as they were upset by Fire Mountain 5-2. Gary Delisle was the mountaineers best as his 357 resulted from singles of 102, 136 and 119. He got lots of help from Rick Trott with his 133 and 316

and Bob LaPlante his 300 (110 and 102). In the second they put up a huge 553 single (Bob-102, Vince Bradley-104, Gary-136 and Rick-133) to win handily and ensure their pinfall win by 85. Sean Andersen was tops for Sandri as his 340 included 105, 109 and 126 strings. Sue Horton followed with her 116 and 315 while Randy Harper added a 104 and Roland Horton a 97 in their string three win where they put up a 502. Sandri is a half-point off the pace and next week they will battle the Hawks to settle the Central.

Four points still separates the top two spots in the West as both the Incredibowls and Narutowicz won their matches by identical 5-2 scores. Peter Swistak topped the Incredibowls at 347 (126, 108, 113) with Billy Brunk contributing 323 (118 & 110), Steve Swistak 117 and 311 and Aaron Plankey a 105 first. Nate Orszulak led the Slow Burners at 334 (125 and 119) with Scott Radisic adding 119 and 320. Jody Orszulak chipped in with a 110 in string number two where they lost by nine.

Also in the West, the Narutowicz got another big night from Lee Robinson and downed Zeke's Freaks taking the pinfall point by 11. Lee opened with 125 and added singles of 107 and 117 resulting in his 349 trifecta. Dan Trzpit aided at 315 (111 and 112). The Freaks took their points in the middle stanza as Doug

Grigas' 101 and Pete Ducharme's 113 was plenty. Doug filled in for the Freaks and topped them at 281. Ryan Breen registered a 103 finale for the Freaks where they lost by five measly pins. The Incredibowls and Towicz will go head to head next week to determine the West champ.

Roll-A-Way continues to fine tune their game as they wait to find out who their playoff competitors will be. They had no problem this week as they shutout the Snappers seven zip taking pinfall by 121. Phil Clough was the top dog as his league leading 380 resulted from a pair of 131's and 118. Kylie Josefiak contributed 361 (127, 119, 115), Josh Lowell 121 and 318 and Dan Josefiak 316 (101, 108, 107). Rusty Lambert topped the shellmen with his 111 and 306 while Ed Stachowicz added 102 and 107 singles.

In a low scoring tight affair, the Cannonballs slipped past Kibbe's Saw Mill 5-2. They came up one skinny little pin short of a sweep as Tony Burke's 103 was just enough in the first for a Kibbe victory. He led his quartet at 278. Keith Marchessault took over from there and his 114 second and 112 third, where they won by two pins, settled the issue for the Cannonballers who took pinfall by 29. Kibbe's remains in the hunt for the "wildcard" along with the Incredibowls and Narutowicz.

INDOOR TRACK, continued from page 10

"I did well in the long jump," said Johnson. "In order to beat him, I had to run at a certain pace in the thousand because he ran a fairly good time. Unfortunately, I was unable to keep up with the pace coach made for me because I never really trained for it. My performance got me the third best record in school history. Not bad for someone doing it the first time."

Johnson hopes to further his track and football career at the

college level, making a decision for either Endicott or Assumption.

Senior Panther Seth Talbot set a new school record for indoor pole vault at 13' at the Reggie Lewis Center.

"I am very proud of the team and what we accomplished this year," said Talbot, who also participates in outdoor track and did shot put and pole vault this year indoors. "I figured I would be a good person to throw shot put for the relay team and I did pole vault because I do it in outdoor track and I love it."

Aside from the impressive pole-vaulting season, Talbot was

one of three including Owen Faulha and Johnson who threw for a combined 110' 2.5" to break the Panther shot put team record.

Other record breakers included Panthers Lukas Anderson, Ben Hood, Bailey Metcalf and Elliot Walsh who ran on the 4x800 relay team, earning a time of 8:27.85.

Panther league champions included Ben Weah in the 55m, Walsh in the 1000m and the mile, Owen Mahoney in the two mile, Lars Jenkins for the high jump and the team of Ryan Castriotta, Ben Hood, Lars Jenkins and Shea Lindley for the 4x400.

CORONAVIRUS, continued from page 10

events were shut down as well, including banquets and all-star games. The 2020 High School Senior All-Star Game held at the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame was cancelled. The game was originally set for Thursday, March 29, but Gov. Charlie Baker has barred any gathering with more than 250 people. The games drawn a few thousand throughout the evening.

What could hurt the athletes

most is the uncertainty. Spring sports are shut down for two weeks right now. But it is possible that could be extended, or worse, cancelled all together. Unfortunately, those options are on the table. The MIAA most recently released this statement on Saturday, March 14.

"The MIAA staff equally shares in these emotions and the existing heartbreak which has resulted due to canceled games, shortened seasons and disruption to exciting school activities, trips and opportunities.

As we face these uncharted

waters, be confident in knowing the MIAA staff is well and is readily available to you with guidance, support, resources and kindness. Our office is open and functioning. Scheduled meetings are moving forward in person or via tele- and/or video-conferencing, as organized by each MIAA sport liaison. Communication regarding the status of the spring season will be forthcoming following necessary discussions this coming week."

Turley Sports will continue to monitor the situation and bring you news whenever we can.

OPEN CUP, continued from page 10

ence semifinals before losing to host Reading United AC 1-0 in the finals.

"We had a good group of players and it was a very good season for us last year," Kolodziey said. "We're hoping to qualify for the league playoffs again this year."

GPS Portland Phoenix also made the league playoffs last year and they lost 2-1 to Reading United in the semifinals.

The Pioneers are currently scheduled to play at GPS Portland Phoenix to kick off the 2019 regular season on May 9. They'll be playing at AC Connecticut the following week

before hosting GPS Portland in the home opener on May 22. The Pioneers are scheduled to play five more regular season home matches.

There has not been any further information on the regular season schedule and it is possible the season will open without any delays since it is not set to begin until May.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SPORTS TEAMS

Sign-ups ongoing for Quabbin League

REGION – The Quabbin Valley Over-30 Baseball League is seeking new players for 2020 season. The league has six teams, several with open roster spots. Last year, the league voted to allow players age 28 and 29 to be able to join the league, though players under 30 are not eligible to pitch. The

cost of the league this season is \$192. For players new to the league, there will be a workout held in early April prior to the league's annual draft.

Players will have an opportunity to showcase their skills before being selected to a team for the season. The season is 15 regular season games plus at least

one playoff game. Games are nine innings and metal (BBCOR -3) or wood bats are allowed. Fields locations are throughout Western Mass.

For more information on the league, or if you are interested in registering, go to <https://www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org/>. The league is also in Facebook.

Valley Wheel Baseball looking for new players

REGION – The Valley Wheel Over-30 Baseball League is seeking new players for the upcoming 2020 season, which is set to begin near the end of April. The league is seeking players ages 28 and up. Players turning 28 this year are eligible. However, only players 30 and older can pitch. The league plays 15 regular sea-

son games with games being held mostly on Sundays with a couple of weekday games thrown in the mix as well as a special Mother's Day Saturday game in early May. The league is built on comradery, fair play, and having a good time with friends. If interested in trying out, go to www.valley-wheelbaseball.com. The rules of

the league and new player forms can be found on the site. For further information, you can contact the league's commissioner, Jim Nason at wheel12@comcast.net or call him at (413) 433-4308. Tryouts will be taking place in the early weeks of April, weather permitting, with a draft following the tryouts.

QUABBIN, continued from page 10

the whole exchange began when he was coaching a USA/New England basketball team and he played Behne's Alba Berlin team, which is part of Germany's highest level professional team and organization.

At the time, Behne had been working with several Berlin schools brainstorming a way to incorporate both English and basketball into a class. The end result was a two-year elective class for ninth and tenth graders offering the physical education component of basketball and the academic piece of English and the history of basketball.

The highlight at the end of the two years – a visit to the United States during basketball season to become immersed in the culture and to have opportunities to experience different levels of basketball in this country.

Since Behne already knew Dextradeur and had a good working relationship with him, it only seemed natural to pursue the chance for a collaboration with Quabbin.

"Nicholas brought up the idea of a sponsored exchange to enhance the learning experience for both our students and staff as well," said Dextradeur. "We were fortunate that when I raised the possibility with our administration at Quabbin, it was positively received, encouraged and warmly accepted. We went with it and the program has become a remarkable success."

As the 18 German students visited the Quabbin district area, staying with Quabbin host families, the plan was for 12 Quabbin students to visit Germany during April vacation and stay with some of the German students, as it had been done in the previous two years. Unfortunately, the overseas trip has been suspended.

However, rewinding the clock to the Friday night showcase, both teams had a memorable time playing.

"I think we matched up very well against each other," Quabbin junior Shea Skowyra said, who was hosting German center, Constantin Grujicic, that he was ironically marking. "They played similar to us. The only difference is they moved the ball around the floor very well and they focused on their defense before their offense."

All 18 students attend Heinrich Schliemann School in Berlin



Photo by Karen A. Lewis

Members of the Quabbin basketball team, a handful of other Quabbin athletes and the German exchange students with their chaperones pose for a group picture after the game.

Germany and were accompanied on the trip by coach Behne, academic teacher Dirk Speckmann and youth coordinator Jan Erdtmann of Alba Berlin, the club basketball team that several students play for, including Grujicic and Koppel.

"The students learn about the history of the U.S., but basketball is the main focus," stated Behne. "They get funding from the local government to come on this trip. It was not a problem finding hosts, we've made a good impression from past years. The kids get to learn about a new culture, they learn about life and get to know the language as they stay with families and make new friends."

Both Grujicic and Koppel, who stayed with junior Sydney Bolger take basketball very seriously and hope to play after high school.

"It's hard to get famous playing basketball if you're a girl," said Koppel. "I wanted to know how girls' basketball is in the U.S. and wanted to visit colleges to know the options I had in the future. I would eventually like to be a physical therapist."

While at Quabbin, Koppel was able to attend art, history and math classes, noting the structure was more independent than classes in Germany. Koppel also mentioned sour patch kids, Cheetos, Gatorade and oreos in the variety of flavors (not just the one flavor offered in Germany), were some of her favorite American foods.

"The trip is amazing," said Grujicic. "I love basketball and want to be a pro someday. I love the game; you have to be creative when you play. Shea is tough to play against."

Quabbin athlete Riley Rischitelli was thrilled to have the opportunity to host Oskar Barch, who also played in the game, and

the chance to make international friends.

"Oskar was very personable and many of my friends and classmates who got to interact with him while he was here told me he was a fun guy," Rischitelli said. "He loved Doritos, Cheetos and Gatorade, they don't have any of those things in Germany, and also the size of the foods here like huge muffins."

Music was a common denominator for the two, and Barch was able to shadow Rischitelli in several classes coming to the conclusion that American schools were much more "chill" than schools in Germany.

The bulk of the time for the Germans were filled with day trips. While the host students attended their normal classes, the Germans and their chaperones visited University of Connecticut and took in a game, toured Boston and went to a Celtics game and shopped at a local outlet mall. They participated in the Quabbin – Germany game with a banquet including host families after, and got to see first hand what U.S. high school district playoffs were like when they went to support the Quabbin boys team in their match against Chicopee.

A free day built into their itinerary enabled the German students to enjoy activities with their host families.

"The success of this exchange and relationship can best be defined by the faces and expressions of the students from both our schools," concluded Dextradeur. "They say that those that do not travel only get to read the first page of a good book. The friendships formed by everyone from both sides of the Atlantic really lend validity to that adage. It really is a global world."

SPRING SPORTS, continued from page 10

weeks and then make it happen," a city official said at Morse's press conference on Tuesday.

The cancellation has brought forth a lot of disbelief and disappointment in the amount of disturbance the coronavirus has caused in the past two weeks.

The St. Patrick's Day Road Race was also considered a major preparation step for local runners who then move on to participate in the Patriots Day tradition, the Boston Marathon. However, that race has since also been postponed from its scheduled date of Monday, April 20. Tentatively, Gov. Charlie

Baker and Boston Mayor Marty Walsh have moved the big race to Monday, Sept. 14. Baker said at a news conference his administration planned to file legislation to hold the race on that date.

The MIAA hockey finals were also scrapped. They were set to take place last weekend at the TD Garden in Boston, which is now completely shut down from having events since Baker lowered the gathering ban to 25 people.

In neighboring Connecticut, the CIAC, the organization that oversees the state's high school sports has cancelled the reminder of the state tournaments for basketball, hockey, and other remaining sports that have competitions.

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Our Sports editors and their staff of reporters and photographers cover select varsity school games weekly as well as youth and adult sports leagues. We also accept photo submissions and write-ups from coaches and players. Email your content to DaveForbes@turleysports.com.

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5 reasons why summer camp is a good choice for kids

Summer vacation offers students a respite from lessons and the routine of school. Children might once have eagerly awaited those final days of classes so they could lounge poolside, skip rocks across ponds and spend the long days of the season playing with friends. But many of today's youngsters spend much of their summer vacations indoors playing with their digital devices.

Perhaps that's why one of the last vestiges of the classic summer vacation escape — summer camp — remains such a viable option for parents who want their children to get outdoors once the school year ends.

Although kids needn't be in camp all summer long, a week or two can benefit campers of all ages. The follow-

ing are five reasons why summer camp might be the right fit this year.

1 Explore talents. Summer camps help young people explore their unique interests and talents. Under an organized, yet often easygoing, camp schedule, kids can dabble in sports, arts and crafts, leadership, community support, and so many other activities that may not be fully available to them elsewhere.

2 Physical activity: Lots of camps build their itineraries around physical activities that takes place outdoors. Campers may spend their time swimming, running, hiking, playing sports, climbing, and so much more. This can be a welcome change for kids accustomed to living sedentary lifestyles. Regular physical activity has many health

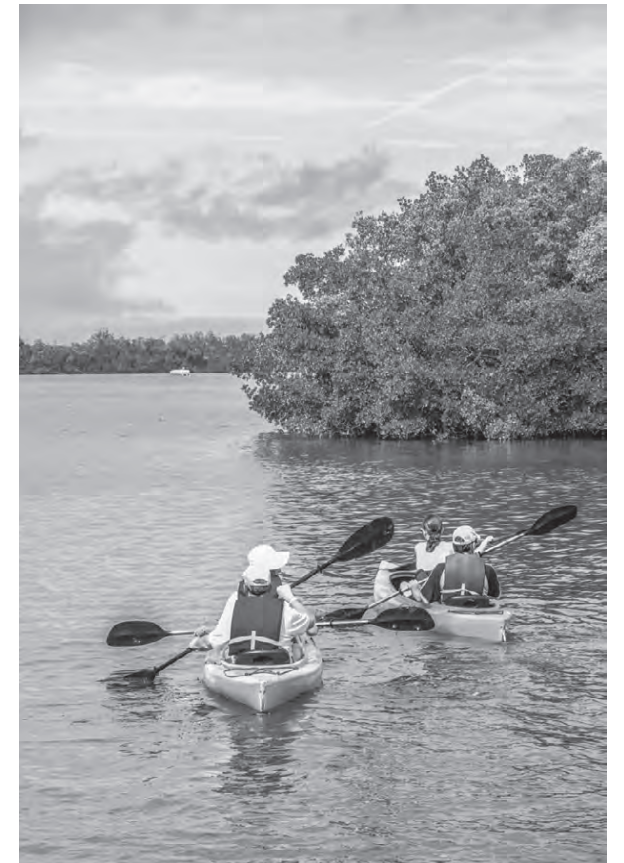
benefits and can set a foundation for healthy habits as an adult.

3 Gain confidence. Day and sleep-away camps offer campers the opportunity to get comfortable in their own skin. Camps can foster activities in self-esteem by removing the academic measures of success and fill in with noncompetitive opportunities to succeed. Campers learn independence, decision-making skills and the ability to thrive outside of the shadow of their parents, siblings or other students.

4 Try new things. Camp gives children the chance to try new things, whether that's learning to cook, exploring new environments or embracing a new sport or leisure activity. Opening oneself up to new opportunities can build character and prove enlightening for children.

5 Make new friends. Camp is a great place to meet new people and make lifelong friends. Campers flood in from areas near and far. This provides kids with a chance to expand their social circles beyond their immediate neighborhoods and schools.

Camps benefit children in a variety of ways. Lessons learned in camp can strengthen values, build confidence, develop coping mechanisms when adversity strikes, and enable campers to make lifelong friends.



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Basic Horse Care, Daily Riding,
English & Western, Ages 5 & up
Call to Register (413) 813-9291
53 Ware Road, Belchertown
Email: Amanda.greeneacres@gmail.com

Camp Marshall
Day & Overnight Options for
Traditional & Horse Camp Ages 7-16
Cloverbud Day Camp Ages 4-6 • Leadership Programs
Mini-Camp Program • Fun Theme Weeks
Join us for a fun, hands-on outdoor summer experience!
Make friends & memories that last a lifetime!
Financial Aid Available! Visit us online for Rates, Dates & Registration
www.CampMarshall.net • 508-885-4891 • 92 McCormick Road, Spencer, MA 01562

SUMMER AT STONELEIGH-BURNHAM
Overnight and day camps on 100-acre campus for girls ages 8-18 focused on riding, dance and animation.
To register and learn more, visit sbschool.org/summer
STONELEIGH-BURNHAM SUMMER PROGRAMS
Greenfield, MA

See how curious children become eager students.



The Gorse Children's Center is Now Enrolling!

- Infant • Toddler • Preschool
- Pre-Kindergarten
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Fabulous Field Trips,
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- Flexible scheduling
- Academic & full year calendars

The Gorse Children's Center at Mount Holyoke College

27 Morgan Street, South Hadley, MA
413-538-3351
gorse@brighthorizons.com
www.brighthorizons.com/gorse



Camp MacDuffie
Co-ed • Grades 1-8
July 6 - August 14
Race into summer at Camp MacDuffie!
Space is limited so don't wait!
Be part of this year's camps and discover the true meaning of summer...having fun and making friends!
Camp MacDuffie offers six weeks of exciting camp experiences:
Week 1: July 6 - 10 Week 4: July 27 - 31
Week 2: July 13 - 17 Week 5: August 3 - 7
Week 3: July 20 - 24 Week 6: August 10 - 14
Camp programs include:
Arts • Athletics • Coding • Creative Writing • Dance • Theater • Science
Monday-Friday 9am-3pm • Area field trips and lunch included
Additional morning and afternoon hours available
Register now for summertime fun at summer.macduffie.org
The MacDuffie School • 66 School Street • Granby, MA 01033

HOLYOKE PEDIATRIC ASSOCIATES
150 Lower Westfield Rd, Holyoke
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ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS
Call Us Today 413-536-2393
Introducing our newest physician-
Dr. Kristin Lynch
Book your child's
School, camp, sports, or annual
PHYSICALS Now!
Children need physicals going into K, 4th, 7th & 10th grades.
• Pre-natal visits • Newborns to age 21 • Lactation Services
• Annual physicals • Sports physicals • Behavioral Health Services
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• Most insurances accepted • Open weekends & holidays!
www.holyokepediatrics.com

THE DOCTORS ARE IN...



Visit our new Belchertown office just down the road from the previous location.

Call to book your camp physicals today!



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Francesca M. Bajaj, M.D.
Thirza C. Lareau, M.D.
Amy C. Kasper, M.D.
Kimberly A. Dewey, M.D.
Kimberly J. Martins, M.D.
Priya S. Malik, M.D.
Deanna Tocco, M.D.
Jonathan Rosenstein, M.D.
Rebecca Gurney, C.N.P.

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www.pamcares.com

SUMMER FUN FOR KIDS AND TEENS!
Space is limited. Register today!
visit hcc.edu/summer to learn more
PROGRAMS INCLUDE:
Drone adventures
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Wilderness Survival
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6/29 - 7/31
summer @HCC
HOLYOKE COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Factors to consider before choosing a summer camp

Adults often look back fondly on their childhood experiences at summer camp. Camps can provide the opportunity to form lifelong friendships and discover rewarding hobbies that can enrich campers’ lives for decades to come.

Choosing a summer camp is no small task, as the options at families’ disposal range from overnight camps to weekday afternoon camps to camps that specialize in certain programs, such as music or dance. Cost also is likely to factor into families’ decisions, as the American Camp Association notes that cost can vary greatly depending on which camp families choose. For example, the ACA notes that the average daily fee at a resident camp is \$85, while the same fee at a day camp is \$43.

CARING FOR BTOWN'S KIDZ FOR 25 YEARS!

Belchertown Kidz Club

SUMMER KAMP

FOR AGES 5-12 YEARS
10 Themed Weeks!

STEM • ART • COOKING • SPORTS
SWIMMING • FIELD TRIPS • DAILY CURRICULUM
INDOOR/OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES & MORE!

JUNE 22nd – AUG 25th*
Mon – Fri / 7:00 am – 6:00 pm

*We follow the Belchertown school schedule.
Extended camp available for students entering kindergarten in the fall!

Enrolling for ALL Summer and Fall Programs
(Pre-K & School Age - Before/After School)

at our OPEN HOUSE • Sat., March 28th, 10am-2pm

FLEXIBLE SCHEDULE
CHOOSE FROM FULL WEEK - PART TIME - FULL OR 3/4 DAY

4 Stadler Street • (413) 323-5439
belchertownkidzclub@gmail.com

Follow Us

We walk to the Free Summer Lunch Program at CHCS!

SUMMER CAMP

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION

Thursday, April 16th & Tuesday, April 28th
9:00am – 2:00pm

Thursday, April 23rd & Monday, May 4th
6:00pm – 7:30pm

\$160 per week/per child – Ludlow Resident
\$170 per week/per child – Non-resident

No Appointment Necessary/No Additional Discounts

Must pay in Full or Use Auto Debit

General Registration

Friday, May 15th 9:00-2:00PM
Wednesday, May 20th 6:00-7:30PM
Thursday, May 28th 6:00-7:30PM

\$180 per week/per child: Ludlow Resident
\$190 per week/per child: Non-Resident

\$50 registration fee will be waived with pay in full or auto debit option.

Space is Limited
Must bring a voided check or bank letter for auto debit
Current immunizations due at the time of registration

Questions? Contact: ssantos@ludlowbgc.org or kmartins@ludlowbgc.org

**LUDLOW COMMUNITY CENTER
RANDALL BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**

91 Claudia's Way Ludlow, MA 01056
413-583-2072

Camp Hours: 6:30 am - 5:30PM

June 22nd - August 14th

Weekly Field Trips
For more information, visit:
www.ludlowbgc.org

LET'S SET UP CAMP

**20 A SEASON
20 IN THE SUN**

The Arbors Camp is gearing up for another season in the sun. From exploring nature and science to playing sports and games and creating art and music, The Arbors Camp gives kids amazing opportunities to learn, play and create. Summer camp is an unforgettable experience that is the beginning of many lifelong friendships. Start getting excited now.

The Arbors Camps in Chicopee and East Longmeadow are open to kids ages 5-12. Visit arborskids.com for more information.

summer camp for kids, families should make the decision together. Kids should be involved in the selection process, as they’re more likely to have an enjoyable camp experience if they had a say in where they will be spending their summers. The following are some factors families should consider as they look for summer camps, courtesy of the ACA.

Kids’ interests
The ACA urges parents to consider the child’s interests and personality before choosing a summer camp. Parents might want their children to attend the same summer camp they visited as youngsters, but each child is different. Just because mom and dad liked a particular camp does not mean their children will. The ACA notes that summer camps should align with children’s interests and maturity level.



REYNOLDS BASEBALL CLINICS

Operated by Head Coach
Matt Reynolds

Youth Day Clinic: Aug 25-26
High School Clinic: Aug 30

Website: <http://collegebaseballcamps.com/minuteman/>

CAPEN HILL NATURE SANCTUARY SCIENCE and NATURE PROGRAM

LOCATED AT 56 CAPEN ROAD, CHARLTON, MA

4 ONE WEEK SESSIONS STARTING July 13th / AGES 5-12

Now Offering

TEEN STEM CAMP

For Ages 13-15

Four Themed Weeks Starting July 13th **\$165** per week

VISIT WWW.CAPENHILL.ORG. SAVE TIME and REGISTER ON LINE!

GET BACK TO NATURE

Capen Hill is an 86-acre sanctuary with trails open from dawn until dusk, and a visitor center that houses a library, mineral collection, animal residents, and a gift shop. Dedicated to Preservation and Environmental Education

HAMPSHIRE GYMNASTICS

SUMMER MORNING PROGRAM

Fun for Girls & Boys 4-10 years old
Monday-Friday 9 am - 1 pm (early drop off available)
NOW OFFERING 1 week sessions starting July 6th

Drop your kids off for a morning of non-stop fun! Our program includes gymnastics instruction, games, outside activities, arts and crafts, and slip-n-slide! They will love our trampolines, air pit, balance beams, rings and rock wall! Price \$200 week. Call our office or go online for more information.

461 West Street Amherst, MA 01002
(413) 256-6990
www.hampshiregymnastics.com

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BELCHERTOWN SUMMER FUN
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NEW, LOWER PRICING!
As low as \$29/day.

School Age Summer Program for children who have completed K-6th grade.

Full Day Camp Includes:
Swimming, Field Trips, Sports, Nature Exploration, Arts & Crafts, Weekly Themes.
Flexible Scheduling Available

For more information, visit
www.belchertowndayschool.org
(413) 323-8108 and/or email Heidi@belchertowndayschool.org

Obituaries

Scott Allen Cummings, 61

BARRE – Scott Allen Cummings, 61, passed away suddenly at home on March 11, 2020. Scott was born on Aug. 3, 1958 in Holden, the son of Barbara (Rice) Cummings and the late Frank Cummings.

He lived most of his life in Barre and was a graduate of Quabbin Regional High School Class of 1976. Over the years, Scott was a self-employed taxi/motor vehicle operator, mechanic and a maintenance/agricultural specialist.

Along with his mother, he is survived and loved by his six siblings, Richard Cummings and his partner Shawn, Kathie Martel, Mark Cummings and his wife Suzette, Bob Cummings, Susan LaForce and her husband David

and Wendy Cummings. He also leaves many nieces, nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews, relatives and friends, including Ted and Alex. He is predeceased by his father, Frank; grandparents Frank and Alice Cummings; step-grandfather Eben Darling; Everett and Maude Davis Rice and brother-in-law, Philip Martel.

Scott enjoyed spending time with family, friends, and neighbors, caring for his animals, and following politics. He loved the Red Sox, Celtics, and Bruins and was an extraordinarily dedicated Patriots fan.

The Celebration of Scott’s Life on Sunday, March 22, 2020 is



postponed to a day and time to be announced. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Barre Emergency and Rescue Squad, 40 West St., Box 201, Barre, MA 01005 or No. 4 Schoolhouse, Inc., 209 Farrington Road, Barre, MA 01005. Pillsbury Funeral Home, 96 South Barre Road, Barre is directing arrangements.

DEATH NOTICE

Cummings, Scott A.
Died March 11, 2020
Celebration of Life
March 22, 2020
Hartman’s Farm

Governor declares March as Problem Gambling Awareness Month

Did you know that the Massachusetts prevalence rate of problem gambling is approximately 2 percent of the adult population? A study conducted as part of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission’s robust research agenda further indicated an additional 8 percent of the state’s population is considered at-risk gamblers, and about 1 in 5 Massachusetts adults reported knowing someone who they considered gambling too much.

The Massachusetts Gaming Commission (MGC) recognizes March 2020 as Problem Gambling Awareness Month (PGAM). Established 16 years ago, PGAM is a national outreach campaign designed to educate the public about problem gambling and the resources available.

In recognition of a statewide commitment to increasing awareness, Massachusetts Governor Charles D. Baker and Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito have officially declared March as Problem Gambling Awareness Month across the Commonwealth, “urging citizens to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance,” according to the proclamation.

MGC Chair Cathy Judd-Stein said, “On behalf of my fellow commissioners, I’d like to thank Governor Baker and Lt. Governor Polito for supporting this meaningful opportunity to come together and raise awareness about problem gambling and highlight the many resources available. Promoting healthy play and reducing gambling-related harm is a primary focus of the Commission’s work, not only during this important month of advocacy but throughout the year.” Chair Judd-Stein added, “We commend the collaboration and commitment from our many partners and stakeholders who perform a vital role in providing the education and programs nec-

essary to support those in need.”

This year’s PGAM theme of “Awareness + Action” aims to generate awareness about the risks of gambling and urges action toward hope and recovery for those in need.

In honor of PGAM 2020, MGC presents the following new initiatives and activities covering four key areas of focus, including:

Education and Outreach: The MGC encourages casino employees and patrons to engage with its responsible gaming program, GameSense. The MGC works closely with the Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling (MCCG) and GameSense advisors to promote this month of advocacy by hosting a series of educational activities for casino employees and patrons at each casino property.

Throughout the month, the MGC will also implement an enhanced paid advertising, marketing and digital campaign to educate the public about GameSense and highlight the availability of the Voluntary Self-Exclusion program, among other tools and resources.

Prevention: The MGC supports the ongoing implementation of strategies aimed at preventing and minimizing gambling-related harm. PGAM offers a valuable opportunity to highlight prevention-related initiatives, including the upcoming expansion of the innovative budgeting tool, PlayMyWay, to MGM Springfield and Encore Boston Harbor.

Research: The MGC is advancing its groundbreaking research agenda to further understand the true social and economic effects of Massachusetts casinos, with a particular focus on gambling behaviors and especially at-risk and problem gambling.

In March, the MGC will unveil an exciting new online research hub, offering easier access to its robust gaming research library.

As part of that effort, the MGC will launch its first-ever open data exchange, providing researchers from around the world with access to many of the datasets generated through its research agenda. This effort demonstrates an unprecedented commitment to advancing science on gambling-related issues.

Collaboration and Support: The MGC supports Cambridge Health Alliance’s ‘Gambling Disorder Screening Day,’ taking place on March 10, 2020. On the same day, GameSense advisors will offer problem gambling screening to the staff at Plainridge Park Casino, MGM Springfield and Encore Boston Harbor.

Mark Vander Linden, MGC’s Director of Research and Responsible Gaming, said, “We recognize that problem gambling causes tremendous pain and suffering to individuals, their families, and communities. Our goal in Massachusetts is clear: work closely with our partners to mobilize an evidence-informed, comprehensive strategy to reduce the harm caused by gambling to the maximum extent possible.”

Marlene Warner, Executive Director of the Mass. Council on Compulsive Gambling, said, “Across the Commonwealth, we’ll hold briefings, host screening and training days, run media campaigns, and conduct awareness initiatives to reach people who can make a difference in ensuring that problem gambling services are widely available and accessible.”

More information about MGC’s problem gambling prevention efforts is available at MassGaming.com.

If you or someone you know needs immediate help with a potential gambling problem, please visit the Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling website or call the helpline at 1-800-426-1234.

Partnership implements overdose tracking program

WORCESTER – Police departments in all 60 of Worcester County’s cities and towns will begin tracking overdoses in real-time thanks to a new program implemented by a partnership between District Attorney Joseph D. Early Jr., the Central Massachusetts Chiefs of Police, local hospitals and medical providers, Sheriff Lew Evangelidis and recovery community partners.

The Critical Incident Management System (CIMS) allows law enforcement to collect overdose data and make it available in real-time to all police departments in the county. The information is then used to have a plainclothes police officer and a recovery coach reach out to the non-fatal overdose victim and offer services within 48 hours. The program allows police to identify those with substance use disorder, who are most at risk and offer them treatment.

Kelley Research Associates in partnership with law enforcement and the District Attorney’s office in Plymouth County developed CIMS. After implementing the program in 2017, Plymouth County had a 26 percent reduction in overdose deaths in 2018. CIMS is in use or being implemented in Bristol, Essex, Middlesex and Norfolk counties, as well.

The District Attorney’s office



Turley Publications Submitted Photo

District Attorney Joseph D. Early Jr. speaks in Gardner about a new program regarding overdose tracking and response in Worcester County.

purchased the software for \$40,000 using drug forfeiture funds.

“I am proud that we are bringing the CIMS program to Worcester County,” said Early. “This model has proven effective in Plymouth and we hope to see the same success here. I’m glad to partner with so many who are helping us address this deadly disease. We are stepping out of our silos to use a model proven effective in another part of our state. It is exciting.”

Central Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association President and Fitchburg Police Chief Ernest F. Martineau has worked to get all of the departments in Worcester County signed up to use the pro-

gram.

“Critical Incident Management Systems have shown to make substantial gains with providing hope for those suffering with addiction,” said Chief Martineau. “Positive reductions to overdoses have been reported in Plymouth County and that same technology is soon to be a reality in Worcester County. CIMS will break down the silos and allow law enforcement to effectively collaborate its response. CIMS was developed by police for police.”

Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis has also agreed to partner on this program by identifying those reentering the community, who may be at a high risk for overdose.

Church News

Masses and Services

Churches are not holding Masses and Services at this time. Please check ahead.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH
Rev. James Callahan, Pastor
Rectory – 978-257-8372
Office - 978-355-2228
Fax 978-355-0042

St. Joseph’s Chapel
On the Common, Barre
MASS SCHEDULE
Sunday – 8:00 a.m.
St. Thomas-a-Becket Church
Vernon Avenue, South Barre
MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday – 4:15 p.m.
Sunday – 10:30 a.m.
Daily Mass - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9 a.m.
Confession - Saturday 3 p.m. or by appointment

BARRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
United Church of Christ
30 Park Street, Barre
Pastor Margaret Keyser
“We are a caring community of Christ’s followers who, like Jesus, welcome people wherever they are on their journey of faith.”
Church office - 978-355-4041
barrechurch@gmail.com
www.barrechurch.com
Sunday worship 9:30 a.m.
Nursery Care

After Time with the Children in worship, Sunday school for ages preschool through grade 9 at 9:30 a.m.
Youth Group every other week
Bible study and community resource programs throughout the year.
Community Friendship Supper - third Thursday of each month 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Barre Food Pantry - second Wednesday of each month
Narcotics Anonymous - weekly meeting Tuesday
Alcoholics Anonymous - Heard It Through the Grapevine weekly meeting Thursday
Alcoholics Anonymous - Pay It Forward weekly meeting Saturday

NEW LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD
60 Main Street, South Barre
Pastor James Foley
Phone: 978-355-6407
Website: www.newlifebarre.org
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.–Noon
Children ages 12 & under are dismissed after worship for Children’s Church until noon.
Thursday Family Night 6-7 p.m.
Friday Christian Youth Club (CYC) 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Children K-12th grade can enjoy activities, supervised free time, music, worship, snack and age-appropriate Bible lessons.

COVENANT EVANGELICAL CHURCH
611 South Street, Barre
Pastor Gary Hayward
Phone: 978-355-8843
www.barre.church/about-us/
contact@cec-barre.net
Sunday Service – 10 a.m.
Adult Sunday School – 9-9:45 a.m. with Pastor Hayward
Jr. Church – K-6 and middle school education is offered to all children during Sunday service.
Fellowship Lunch – First Sunday of each month
Bible Studies – Call church for information
Childcare is available for any infant to preschool age child during Sunday service.

ST. ALOYSIUS CHURCH
58 Church Street, Gilbertville
413-477-6493
Rev. Richard A. Lembo
MASS SCHEDULE
Weekday Masses – Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday – 8 a.m.
Mass first Friday of month – 6:30 p.m.
Saturday Confession/Reconciliation – 3 p.m.
Saturday Vigil Mass – 4 p.m.

Sunday Mass – 7:30 a.m.
Website: www.staloysiuschurch.org

FIRST PARISH UNITARIAN CHURCH ON THE COMMON HUBBARDSTON
978-928-5822
Church Service – 10 a.m.
Sunday School will be at 9 a.m.
Coffee following the service.
The pulpit is filled each week with ministers, seminary students, lay leaders, or visiting musicians. This mix of speakers gives the church a vibrant mix of topics and personalities to deliver the message. All are welcome.

EVANGELICAL CHURCH OF HUBBARDSTON
1 Gardner Rd., Hubbardston
Sunday Services 10 a.m. to noon
Open Thursdays 7-9 p.m.

CROSSROADS CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
Oakham
Bible Based Fellowship
508-882-3337–John 3: 3–7
Weekly host home(s) meetings

OAKHAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
4 Coldbrook Road
508-882-5537
Rev. Timothy Hanley – Minister
Sunday Worship Service – 10 a.m.
Youth Fellowship (grades 6-high school) – Sunday Morning from 9:30-10 a.m.
Sunday School (preschool-grade 5) – Sunday Morning from 10-11 a.m.
Family Sunday, Communion, and Children’s Story are held on the first Sunday of each month (no Youth Fellowship or Sunday School)

ST. PETER’S CHURCH
18 North St. (Route 32) Petersham
Rev. Edwin Montaña, Pastor
Tel. Church 978-249-2738
Rectory 978-249-2738
Sunday Mass – 9 a.m.
Coffee social hour after Mass
St. Peter’s Parish Hall

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL PARISH UNITARIAN
Sunday Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Church Phone #978-724-3401
www.PetershamUnitarian.org

ORTHODOX CONGREGATIONAL
21 North Main St., Petersham
Church 978-724-8808
Sunday worship – 10 a.m.
Rev. David Purdy 336-414-7882
Sunday School - Child Care
Handicapped Accessible

ST. AUGUSTINE’S MISSION
Church Street, Wheelwright
Fr. Richard Lembo
Rectory – 413-477-6493
MASS SCHEDULE
Sunday – 9 a.m.
Thursday – 8 a.m.
TEMPLE ISRAEL
107 Walnut St., Athol
Reb Sarah Noyovitz
Office – 978-249-9481
Website: www.templeisraelathol.org
Two Saturday Shabbat services a month beginning at 10 a.m. followed by a vegetarian potluck luncheon and Torah study.
(See website for schedule)

TRI-PARISH COMMUNITY CHURCH
The Tri-Parish Community Church serving the communities of Hardwick, Gilbertville and New Braintree meets on a rotating schedule at the involved churches as follows:
January-April: New Braintree Congregational Church, 3 Oakham Rd, New Braintree
May-August: Trinitarian Congregational Church (the Stone Church) Rte. 32, in Gilbertville

September-December: Hardwick Universalist Church, Hardwick Center
Worship begins at 10 a.m. on Sundays with Sunday School during worship. In summer, services are at 9:30 a.m. and Sunday School is in recess. Further information is available on the website triparishcommunitychurch.com or by contacting triparishcc@gmail.com, by phone 508-867-3306 or by mail at: P.O. Box 202, New Braintree, MA 01531.

SAINT PATRICK PARISH
Father James Boland, Pastor
290 Main St., Rutland
Parish Center
9 Pommogussett Rd., Rutland
Church Hall - 508-886-3161
Fax - 508-886-2897
Email - info@stpatriksrutland.org
Daily 8 a.m. Masses - Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday
Saturday Mass - 5 p.m.
Confessions will be heard on Saturdays from 4-4:30 p.m. or by appointment only.
Sunday Masses - 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
108 New Braintree Rd.(Rte. 67), North Brookfield
Church – 774-289-6068
Sunday Worship – 10 a.m.

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF RUTLAND UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
All are welcome here.
264 Main St., Rutland
Pastor David W. Fish
Sunday Worship at 8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m.
Sunday School is held at 10 a.m. during the service
Senior High Youth Group on Sundays at 7
Pastor’s Cell - 413-537-8027
Church Office - 508-886-4453
Pastor’s email: dwfish@comcast.net
Church email: rutlanducc@gmail.com
facebook.com/
FirstCongregationalChurchofRutland
Website: www.rutlanducc.org

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WEST BROOKFIELD
P.O. Box 371
36 North Main St., West Brookfield
Rev. Lisa Durkee Abbott, Pastor
508-867-7078
Sunday worship – 10 a.m.
Sharing Cupboard (serving West Brookfield, Warren and West Warren) - Wednesdays - 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m., Thursdays - 7-8 p.m. Call the church for more information at 508-867-7078.
Senior choir practice Thursdays – 7:30 p.m.

Seasonal Bible studies
Call church for times and dates
ST. JOHN’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
15 Park Avenue, Athol
Rev. William B. Hobbs, Pastor
Church Service is Sunday mornings at 9 a.m.
All faiths welcome.
Sunday School is at 9 a.m.
Church office – 978-249-9553
Website — www.stjohnsathol.com
St. John’s Thrift Shop is open Thursdays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon providing quality pre-owned clothing and housewares at reasonable prices.

CHESTNUT STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
161 Chestnut St., Gardner
978-632-1978
gardnerumc@gmail.com
Rev. Sela Rousseau, Pastor
Sunday Worship Service - 10 a.m.
Weekly Bible Study - Wednesday 6:30-8 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal - Sunday 9 a.m.
Website gardnerumc.org

St. Joseph’s Cemetery sets winter basket removal date

BARRE – St. Joseph’s Cemetery, South Barre Road, set Monday, March 23 as the deadline to remove winter baskets and decorations. This removal facilitates spring clean up. All remaining items will be discarded.



OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$100, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

Classifieds

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FOR RENT



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ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

REAL ESTATE

BELCHERTOWN LORD JEFFERY APARTMENTS has 1 and 2 bedroom units available. Located in a quiet country setting with modern appliances, w/w carpet, porch/patio, heat & hot water included. Conveniently located for shopping and school district. For more information, please call **413-323-5535**, 711 MA Relay, or stop by the rental office located at 121 N. Main t., B-6, Belchertown. 1 BR rent- \$1,000, 2 BR rent- \$1175. Section 8 and Vouchers welcome. Applications also being accepted for subsidized wait list.



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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REAL ESTATE

HILLSIDE VILLAGE APARTMENTS

APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR ONE, TWO AND THREE BEDROOM APARTMENTS

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•Ample Closets
•Fully Appliance
•Community Room
•Laundry Facilities
•Cats Welcome
•Extra Storage
•24 Hour Maintenance
For Information call **(413)967-7755 EHO**
17 Convent Hill, Ware, MA



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

REAL ESTATE

PALMER FURNISHED 1 bedroom apt., All utilities included, off-street parking. No smoking, No pets \$225 weekly. **413-478-6048**

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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

Public Notices

Town of New Braintree

In accordance with MGL, Chapter 87, Section 3, the Tree Warden will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, April 1, 2020, at 12:00 noon** in the Select Board's Meeting Room at the Town Hall on 20 Memorial Drive to consider the removal of trees on Oakham Road. The trees to be removed have been clearly marked. All interested parties are invited to attend.

This meeting is open to the public and all are invited to attend.
3/19, 3/26/2020

Legal Notice

FY2021 Road Materials Bid

Legal Notice Town of New Braintree, MA is seeking FY 2021 Invitation for Bids for Road Materials in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30B, §5. The bid will be awarded based on the most responsible, responsive bidder offering the lowest price. **The IFB will be available on April 13, 2020 in the Executive Secretary's Office, 20 Memorial Drive New Braintree, MA 01531.** Bids must be sealed and clearly marked "FY21 Road Materials Bid," and are due no later than 2:00 p.m. on June 22, 2020 in the Town Administrator's Office, 20 Memorial Drive, New Braintree, MA 01531. The contact person is Kristen Thacker, Executive Secretary 508-867-2071 x 100 or selectboard@newbraintree.com. The Town reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to only award a contract if it is in the best interest of the Town to do so.
3/19, 3/26/2020

Legal Notice

FY2021 Fuel Bids

Legal Notice Town of New Braintree, MA is seeking FY 2021 Invitation for Bids for Fuel in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30B, §5. The bid will be awarded based on the most responsible, responsive bidder offering the lowest price. **The IFB will be available on April 13, 2020 in the Executive Secretary's Office, 20 Memorial Drive New Braintree, MA 01531.** Bids must be sealed and clearly marked "FY21 Fuel Bids," and are due no later than 2:00 p.m. on June 22, 2020 in the Town Administrator's Office, 20 Memorial Drive, New Braintree, MA 01531. The contact person is Kristen Thacker, Executive secretary, 508-867-2071 x 100 or selectboard@newbraintree.com. The Town reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to only award a contract if it is in the best interest of the Town to do so.
3/19, 3/26/2020

NOTICE

Town of New Braintree

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice of Public Hearing/Planning Board on **Monday, April 6, 2020 at 7pm** at the New Braintree Town Hall. In accordance with The Town of New Braintree Bylaws, Chapter 4 – Removal of Topsoil, Loam, Sand or Gravel, Sections 1-2, a hearing will be held for a Gravel Permit Application from Robert and Deann Caron of Barr Rd, New Braintree. All are invited to attend.

This meeting is open to the public and all are invited to attend.
3/26, 4/02/2020

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS (SEAL)

LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT

Docket 20 SM 001329 ORDER OF NOTICE TO:

Martin E. Tremblay; Noreen B. Tremblay and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act., 50 U.S.C.c. 50 §3901 (et seq):

U.S. Bank Trust, N.A., as Trustee for LSF11 Master Participation Trust,

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Barre, numbered **160 Chapman Road**, given by **Martin E. Tremblay and Noreen B. Tremblay to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for First Magnus Financial Corporation, its successors and assigns, dated April 23, 2007, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 41038, Page 313**, and now held by plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before **April 27, 2020** or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, GORDON H. PIPER Chief Justice of this Court on March 11, 2020

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson Recorder
(19-004593 Orlans)
3/19/2020

Barre Police Log

Sunday, March 8

3:02 p.m. Animal Control Hubbardston Road – Animal Brought to Pound
8:05 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Street – Written Warning

Monday, March 9

3:07 p.m. Safety Concern North Brookfield Road – Officer Spoke to Party
8:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident Personal Injury Chapman Road – Ambulance Signed Refusal

Tuesday, March 10

1:21 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Worcester Road – Vehicle Towed
11:10 a.m. Fire, Suspicious Package Chapman Road – Investigated
5:14 p.m. Breaking and Entering Past Residential Pleasant Street – Report Filed
8:40 p.m. Threats High Street South – Information Given

Wednesday, March 11

11:08 a.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Cut Off Road – Transported to Hospital
11:46 a.m. Property Damage South Barre Road – Investigated
11:56 a.m. Suicide Phillipston Road – Investigated

Thursday, March 12

9:53 a.m. Fire, Medical Emergency West Street – Transported to Hospital
1:08 p.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Root Road – Transported to Hospital
4:01 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Summer Street – Written Warning

Friday, March 13

6:34 p.m. Trespassing Kendall Street – Officer Spoke to Party
11:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Park Street – Arrest(s) Made
Arrest: Taylor B. Hogan, 26, Hubbardston
OUI-Liquor or .08%; Inspection/ Sticker, No

Saturday, March 14

7:44 p.m. Fire, Illegal Burn Main Street – Fire Extinguished

Sunday, March 15

9:20 a.m. Fire, Chimney Williamsville Road – Fire Extinguished

SOUTH BARRE

Saturday, March 14

4:42 p.m. Property Dispute Woods Road – Officer Spoke to Party

Hubbardston Police Log

Sunday, March 8

7:01 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Worcester Road – Written Warning

Monday, March 9

2:21 a.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Worcester Road – Transported to Hospital
11:56 a.m. Fire, Brush High Bridge Road – Fire Extinguished
1:18 p.m. Fire, Brush Halfrey Road – Fire Extinguished
3:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Gardner Road – Citation Issued
3:53 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Gardner Road – Citation Issued
10:24 p.m. Disturbance, Motor Vehicle Burnshirt Road – Located/Found
Summons: Matthew T. Beauvais, 27, Hubbardston
Speeding Rate of Speed Greater Than Was Reasonable And Proper c90 §17; Stop/Yield, Fail to; Stop for Police, Fail; Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle

Tuesday, March 10

1:26 p.m. Animal Complaint Elm Street – In Custody of A.C.O.

Wednesday, March 11

4:25 p.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Barre Road – Transported to Hospital

Thursday, March 12

2:20 p.m. Fraud Healdville Road – Information Given
5:26 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Gardner Road – Criminal Complaint
Summons: Wyatt D. Prentiss, 24, Barre
Unregistered Motor Vehicle; Uninsured Motor Vehicle; Attaching Registration Plates

Friday, March 13

7:33 a.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Bemis Road – Transported to Hospital
8:11 p.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Old Princeton Cutoff Road – Transported to Hospital

Worcester Road – Written Warning

Sunday, March 15

1:23 a.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Robinson Road – Referred to Other Agency

Oakham Police Log

Sunday, March 8

10:56 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Old Turnpike Road – Citation Issued
12:43 p.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Old Schoolhouse Road – Referred to Other Agency
1:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop North Brookfield Road – Citation Issued
2:03 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop North Brookfield Road – Citation Issued

Monday, March 9

5:30 p.m. Recreational Vehicle Complaint Hunt Road – Area Search Negative
5:39 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Old Turnpike Road – Written Warning

Wednesday, March 11

2:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Disabled Rutland Road – Vehicle Towed

Thursday, March 12

3:49 p.m. Animal Complaint North Brookfield Road – Officer Spoke to Party

Friday, March 13

5:51 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Worcester Road – Citation Issued
6:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Worcester Road – Written Warning
7:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop

Public Safety

Rutland Police Log

Sunday, March 8

10:26 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Barre Paxton Road – Citation Issued
12:03 p.m. Fire, Brush Bushy Lane – Fire Extinguished
3:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
5:45 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Maple Avenue – Citation Issued
6:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Barre Paxton Road – Written Warning
8:40 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning

Monday, March 9

1:02 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop East County Road – Written Warning
6:40 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
6:57 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pommogussett Road – Written Warning
7:21 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Maple Avenue – Written Warning
7:23 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pommogussett Road – Written Warning
7:59 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Maple Avenue – Written Warning
8:09 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Maple Avenue – Citation Issued
8:29 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
9:02 a.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Highland Park Road – Transported to Hospital
12:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
8:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Maple Avenue – Citation Issued

Tuesday, March 10

4:49 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
5:01 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
5:11 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
5:18 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
5:29 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
5:35 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pommogussett Road – Written Warning
6:36 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
7:06 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pommogussett Road – Citation Issued
7:23 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
7:34 a.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Main Street – Transported to Hospital
7:36 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Maple Avenue – Citation Issued
7:59 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
8:20 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
12:05 p.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Prescott Street – Transported to Hospital
3:37 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
4:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Barre Paxton Road – Vehicle Towed
Summons: Damon J. St. Louis, 26, Orange
Registration Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle With; Uninsured Motor Vehicle
6:39 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main

Street – Citation Issued

6:59 p.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Village Way – Transported to Hospital
7:11 p.m. Identify Theft Kenwood Drive – Officer Spoke to Party
7:59 p.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Edson Avenue – Transported to Hospital
10:32 p.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Central Tree Road – Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, March 11

5:12 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
1:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
1:45 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Maple Avenue – Citation Issued
2:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
2:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle top Main Street – Citation Issued
2:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
2:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident Personal Injury Maple Avenue – Transported to Hospital
6:46 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
7:33 p.m. Fire, Illegal Burn Barre Paxton Road – Fire Extinguished

Thursday, March 12

5:01 a.m. Breaking and Entering Past Commercial Main Street – Report Filed
10:42 a.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Main Street – Transported to Hospital
1:03 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
1:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
1:20 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
2:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pommogussett Road – Vehicle Towed
2:13 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Criminal Complaint
Summons: Andrew J. Stamatopoulos, 27, Worcester
License Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle With
2:51 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
2:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
3:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
3:39 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop East County Road – Written Warning
8:47 p.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Barre Paxton Road – Transported to Hospital

Friday, March 13

3:38 p.m. Disturbance, Person(s) Miles Road – Arrest(s) Made

Saturday, March 14

6:51 p.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Pleasantdale Road – Transported to Hospital

Sunday, March 15

8:28 p.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Main Street – Transported to Hospital

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NEW LISTING!
137 W. Main St., West Brookfield

Move in ready!! This expansive 3 bedroom, 3 bathroom ranch with a 2 car garage is located in beautiful, rural West Brookfield. This home offers a fully appliance, cabinet packed kitchen with plenty of counter space. The bright and sunny dining room has a built-in hutch and a large picture window. The spacious living room offers a fireplace and a slider that leads to a 3 season room, perfect for relaxing or entertaining. What is better then a beautiful master bedroom/bathroom that includes his and her closets? A second bedroom that has its own full bath! An added bonus is a finished lower level with a game room, a full bathroom, second fireplace and a bedroom. Laundry is conveniently located on the main level. This house is situated on a nice level lot with a beautiful gazebo in the backyard. The updates include a septic system, and a new natural gas high efficiency heating system!!! There is also an additional port for gas fireplace insert or outdoor grill. Possible in home business!



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31 W. Main St., West Brookfield

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